

NEWS ROUNDUP

£405m EC grant for job schemes

Employment and training schemes throughout the United Kingdom are to benefit from a £405 million grant from the European Commission. It has given backing to measures ranging from national programmes such as the Youth Training Schemes and the new employment training programme to small local projects run by local community groups.

The Department of Employment yesterday described the allocation as massive and said it represented just over 19 per cent of the European Social Fund's budget.

Last night, Mr John Cope, Minister of State at the Department of Employment, said a total of 2,909 projects would be supported by the allocation.

£3m housing boost

Some of the worst areas of private housing in the North-west, Yorkshire, and the West Midlands are to benefit from an extra £3 million for improvements, Mr Nicholas Ridley, Secretary of State for the Environment, said last night in a Commons written reply. Authorities benefiting are: Allerdale, £200,000; Birmingham, £400,000; Blackburn, £400,000; Bolton, £200,000; Huddersfield, £200,000; Pendle, £100,000; Rochdale, £200,000; Sheffield, £400,000; Stoke, £250,000 and Wirral, £500,000.

Bolt murder clue

Detectives hunting the killer of Miss Diana Maw, aged 36, who died when a six-inch crossbow bolt was fired into her head, yesterday found the abandoned contents of her handbag on a footpath near Hillcrest Road, Ealing, west London, a few hundred yards from her flat in Woodfield Road, Ealing, west London.

Children allowed in

Mr Douglas Hurd, the Home Secretary, signalled acceptance yesterday of the validity of DNA testing as a means of confirming parenthood in immigration cases. Already the Government has granted entry clearances to "a number" of children who have been the subject of a pilot trial by the Home Office and Foreign and Commonwealth Office. The trial covered 103 children.

Bypass Bill rejected

A private Bill to authorize the construction of the Lyndhurst bypass through the New Forest in Hampshire was rejected yesterday by a Commons select committee, accompanied by strong criticism of the Government for supporting the use of parliamentary time for the purpose.

Girl's body found

A murder hunt was under way yesterday after the body of Sharon Standley, aged 14, of Bromfield Road, Grimsby, was found by a passer-by in a playing field. She died from a single stab wound.

Striking seamen continue to defy court ruling



Mr John Prescott, Labour's energy spokesman, addressing striking seameo outside the Port of Dover yesterday (Photograph: Denzil McNeelance).

Time to take a stand says MP

By Tim Jones

More than 200 seamen dismissed by the P&O ferry company appeared yesterday openly to defy a High Court ruling as they were told by Mr John Prescott, Labour's energy spokesman, that it was time to take a stand.

The defiant rally by the men, who have been in dispute for six months, came after the ruling by Mr Justice Michael Davies on Monday that pickets outside the dock must be limited to six people.

The hearing, at which the National Union of Seamen was fined a further £25,000 for contempt of an earlier ruling forbidding mass picketing, placed the union on three weeks' "probation" to prove it dissociates itself totally from illegal picketing before it can regain control of its sequestered assets.

Yesterday, lawyers acting for the union, which is facing financial ruin, said they intend to appeal against the High Court decision later this week.

Mr Christopher Erving, the NUS solicitor, said the exact grounds of the union's appeal case had still to be worked out.

Union officials feel strongly that they have done everything in their power to dissociate themselves from members who mass at the dock gates daily to jeer at former colleagues who accepted the company's new terms and conditions.

Yesterday, as the crowd yelled "scab" at those reporting for work, Mr Prescott, who is an NUS-sponsored MP, passed on the best wishes of Mr Sam McClellan, the union's general secretary, who is not allowed to attend.

Health chiefs run up £60m debts

By Sheila Gunn, Political Staff

Health authorities are running up big debts and delaying payments to creditors for up to four months because of the Government's spending squeeze.

The National Audit Office, the official spending watchdog, reported yesterday that the authorities have been selling off holdings to try to balance their books.

The report from Mr John Bourn, the Comptroller and Auditor General, warns Mr Kenneth Clarke, the new Secretary of State for Health, of the plight of English health bodies which ran up debts estimated at between £60 million and £70 million last year. The Welsh and Scottish authorities are facing similar problems.

Mr Bourn said for many years the authorities lived within their resources. However, pressure of cash limits had encouraged the authorities

to improve their budgets. "Since April 1, 1983, health authorities have increasingly supplemented their approved revenue expenditure limits by reducing cash tied up in stocks, debtors and bank balances and by delaying payments to creditors in some cases by utilizing more fully the limits of credit and payment terms."

The exercise had cut working balances so that between 1983 and 1987, net assets of £53 million became net liabilities of £77 million. By March last year the health authorities owed a total of £150 million in both capital and revenue costs.

Mr Bourn said the Department of Health and Social Security had wanted health authorities to keep delays in paying their bills "within the bounds of financial prudence" although it did not issue guidance. Last year a DHSS analysis found that 10 of

the 205 regional and district health bodies had built up a four-month backlog of bills. The average was about seven weeks.

The health service management board chaired by Mr Tony Newton, the former Health Minister, investigated the health authority spending last year. It reported that the overspending was comparatively "minor" although individual regions and districts were running into serious difficulties. The DHSS started to keep its own close checks on the budgets from this year.

Meanwhile, Mr Clarke notched up another record yesterday by being sued on his first day as Secretary of State (Jill Sherman writes).

A firm of Merseyside solicitors said High Court writs had been issued on behalf of 20 haemophilic patients exposed to the AIDS virus because of

contaminated blood products. The defendants named in the action were the Secretary of State and the Attorney General.

Mr Graham Ross, the solicitor co-ordinating the legal action, said it was believed at least 50 more patients would be seeking substantial payments.

The allegations against the Government related to the failure to ensure sufficient supplies of home-produced Factor 8, the clotting agent haemophiliacs inject daily, he said.

"The short-fall led to dependency on imported products from the United States, even though standards of blood collection in that country fell far below those required in the UK."

"The British haemophilic was thereby subjected daily to a risk of contamination that had been known about since the middle of the 1970s."

Report on Chernobyl fall-out

Action on lamb criticized

By Martin Fletcher, Political Reporter

Some lamb with radiation levels above the statutory limit may well have been eaten by the public in the wake of the Chernobyl disaster, an all-party committee of MPs said yesterday.

There was no convincing evidence that public health had been jeopardized, but there were several routes by which lamb above the limit could have reached the shops and "it must therefore be probable that some did so", the Commons agriculture committee said.

Seven weeks elapsed between the arrival of the Chernobyl fall-out on May 2, 1986 and the imposition of the first restrictions on slaughtering.

The Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food argued that it was young suckling lambs that showed levels of radiocesium above the 1,000 becquerel limit and that those would not have been slaughtered in that period.

However, the MPs insist that some suckling lambs could have been slaughtered and that the ministry was "wrong to discount this

possibility". They point to attempts by the Scottish Department of Agriculture to minimize disruption to farmers, and say this was regrettable as it meant the restrictions were not watertight.

They also say that, as restrictions were not placed on some peripheral areas until 1987, it was conceivable some sheep had entered the food-chain in the intervening period.

There was a "clear case of negligence" in the Government's failure to act on reports of very high rainfall during the critical period in North Yorkshire, but the MPs emphasize that contaminated lamb could not have reached the shops on a scale that posed a threat to public health.

Elsewhere in the report on the Government's reaction to Chernobyl, the committee,

chaired by Mr Jerry Wiggin, Conservative MP for Weston-super-Mare, says the public relations effort was inadequate, and it calls on ministers to find ways of helping the 130 or so farmers who were victims of the "rough justice" of the compensation scheme.

It says the Government "got it right for nearly everybody" but had a clear duty to accommodate those for whom it did not.

Mr Wiggin said that criticisms levelled at the Government concerned details and that the Government had, in general terms, succeeded in spite of the extraordinary circumstances in its aim of ensuring safe food. Moreover, it had learnt the right lessons for the future.

More than £100,000 is to be spent by Labour-controlled Derbyshire County Council on radiation monitoring equipment after councillors said they were dissatisfied with the Government's handling of the disaster.

Agriculture Committee, Chernobyl: The Government's Reaction (Stationery Office, £4.70).

Policy aid group for the left

By Robin Oakley, Political Editor

A new "think tank" was launched yesterday to help the Labour Party and its sympathizers to get back into the intellectual fray.

Lady Blackstone, the Master of Birkbeck College, who is to be chairman of the new Institute for Policy Research, conceded that the Right had effectively won the battle of ideas over the past decade.

The new institute is designed as a counterweight to bodies such as the Centre for Policy Studies, the Institute of Economic Affairs and the Adam Smith Institute, which have helped to fuel Thatcherism. It is promised £1 million in funds by individuals and trade unions, enough to keep it going for five years.

There will be no formal links with the Labour Party, but shadow ministers seeking studies on particular policy areas will be given a sympathetic hearing.

Lady Blackstone said that there had been an over-emphasis on the individual in the present Government's ideology and it would focus more on community issues. "We want to explode the myth that unemployment is a necessary evil."

Rail subsidy cut

By Rodney Cowton, Transport Correspondent

British Rail's booming commercial performance has led the Department of Transport to cut its subsidy by a further £33 million.

In 1986 it was set a target of reducing the subsidy, known as the public service obligation grant, to the equivalent of £605 million at today's prices, by 1989-90.

The target will be achieved this year - 12 months early.

However, Mr Paul Channon, Secretary of State for Transport, announced yesterday that this year's grant had been set at £572.5 million, a reduction of £33 million.

British Rail said the reduced grant, now paid only for the services of Network SouthEast and certain provincial services, had been set by negotiation, and it accepted it with equanimity.

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TURNOVER	1,109.0	983.6	2,066.6
PROFIT BEFORE TAXATION	100.2	77.2	188.0
EARNINGS PER SHARE	11.6p	9.0p	22.5p
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Marks makes court appearance after global drugs raids

By David Spegel

Britain Dennis Howard Marks, a former MI6 agent, appeared in a Majorcan court yesterday as drug enforcement agencies around the world celebrated what the Americans described as the "busting of the largest marijuana and hashish smuggling operation in the entire world."

Marks, aged 43, appeared in the Supreme Court in Palma to be told that extradition proceedings to the United States could start within three days. The US Department of Justice indictment accuses Marks of controlling the 18-year smuggling enterprise, eventually smashed with the help of Lord Moynihan, the fugitive half-brother of Sports Minister Mr Colin Moynihan.

In London, Balendo Chi Cheun Lo, a 29-year-old travel agent, was remanded in custody following an extradition application from the United States. He was among 21 people named in addition to Marks on the US indictment. Three other men were being interviewed by Scotland Yard drugs officers last night.

It emerged yesterday that Monday's seizure in the Costa Brava of 15 tons of hashish, valued at \$35 million, was not, apparently, connected with the arrests. Seizures valued at \$(US)100 million have already been made in the United States.

A Spanish police report that IRA gun-runner James McCann, a known Marks associate, had been arrested in Palma was also denied yesterday.

Drug Enforcement Agency officers in Miami last night praised the international co-operation that had led to the arrests. "We cannot praise the work of Her Majesty's Customs and Excise and New Scotland Yard highly enough," said a spokesman.

"This has been an operation aimed at busting the largest marijuana and hashish smuggling operation in the entire world. It has taken three years but, thanks to the cooperation we have received from agencies in Britain, Canada, Spain, Thailand and elsewhere, we believe we have done it."

Marks, recruited by MI6 while at Oxford and who used his connections with the secret services to win acquittal at the Old Bailey in 1981 on a charge of attempting to smuggle 15 tons of cannabis into Scotland, appeared in court yesterday with his 33-year-old wife Judy and two other men: Geoffrey Hugh Kenyon, aged 46, a former resident of Saudi Arabia and the owner of a restaurant near Palma, and William Roger Reeves, also known as Mead, who was arrested earlier this month.

The Americans embarked

on their investigation in 1985, concerned at the amounts of Thai marijuana and Pakistani hashish being imported into the United States.

Lord Moynihan, who fled Britain 20 years ago after police launched a fraud inquiry into his interests in London, set up in business in the Philippines but was reported to be under police protection in the States yesterday after revealing information about the drugs ring.

At Bow Street magistrates' court yesterday, Det Con Kenneth MacLennan, of Scotland Yard's extradition squad, said property seized in the case so far amounted to "far in excess" of \$100 million.

He objected to bail for Lo, arrested on Monday at his Piccadilly travel agency, because "documents seized in this case indicate that false passports have been issued and he will use his knowledge of the travel business to abscond."

Lo, of The Avenue, Kilburn, north London, was remanded in custody for a week.

Two other arrests, one in Canada and one in Los Angeles, were made yesterday bringing the total so far being held in connection with the indictment to seven.

Bishops' wives enjoy conference break



Wives of four of the African bishops stand in tribal costume on the steps of St Paul's Cathedral yesterday after they attended the service at the mid-point in the Lambeth Conference. Afterwards the 500 bishops and their wives went to Buckingham Palace to attend a garden party (Photograph: Chris Harris).

Violence against health workers

Action urged to foil attacks on staff

By Jill Sherman, Social Services Correspondent

A government report has called for all caring agencies to adopt a four-point strategy to tackle violence against staff.

The report published yesterday, from the Department of Health and Social Security's advisory committee on violence to staff, recommends that every organization needs a strategy to assess the problem locally, to plan for its prevention, to handle violent acts when they occur and to support those who have been victims of violence.

It emphasizes that agencies have to make resources available to ensure a safe working environment and practices.

The committee was set up in December 1986, by Mr Norman Fowler, then the social services secretary, after

Health authorities should keep registers of "vulnerable" patients discharged from psychiatric hospitals and check on them more, according to an inquiry report published yesterday.

The inquiry into the killing of Isabel Schwartz, a social worker, by Sharon Campbell, a former client and patient, was tabbed 39 times at Bexley Hospital, south-east London, in 1984, nine months after she ceased to be Campbell's social worker.

Campbell was convicted of manslaughter in 1987 and sent to Broadmoor.

The committee, set up by the Department of Health and Social Security and chaired by Mr John Spokes, QC, also called for alarms to be installed in offices to which patients had access, so that staff could call for help.

Frances Betteridge, a social worker, was killed by her client's boyfriend.

The report suggests that information should be shared between caring agencies and recommends that consultations should be held with

professional bodies and trades unions about data which impinges on confidentiality.

On home visits, the committee, chaired by Lord Skelmersdale, recommends that visiting staff should have access to personal alarms,

police escorts and if necessary should visit in pairs.

Combined visits by different agencies could be possible on some occasions, it suggests, although any form of visiting in pairs can make a client more aggressive and the call counter-productive.

A survey from the Health and Safety Executive, published last year, found that out of 5,000 health workers, one in 200 had suffered injury after a violent attack in the past 12 months. One in 10 had needed first aid, and five out of every 100 health workers had been threatened with weapons.

Violence to Staff (Report of the DHSS Advisory Committee on Violence to Staff, Stationery Office, £4.90).

Portfolio PLUS NEW Accumulator Family to share in success

"I thought it was never going to happen". Mr Keith Kime said yesterday when he heard that he had become one of two winners to share the daily Portfolio prize of £4,000.

Mr Kime, a retired bank manager, aged 65, yesterday drank a bottle of champagne with his wife Dora to celebrate the win at their home in Poplar Way, Midhurst, West Sussex.

He plans to share the money with his wife and two married children.

The other winner, Mrs Peggy Cattermole, of Boscombe Cliff Road, Bourne-mouth, Dorset, said she felt "trembly at the knees" when she heard she had won.

Thirst for blood is a classical puzzle

By Philip Howard, Literary Editor

Classicists of the world, assembled in Oxford yesterday for the triennial meeting of Greek and Roman societies, considered the attraction of blood. Mr Thomas Wiewemann of Bristol University discussed the mystery of the Roman Games, by which they meant something bloodier than watching Frank Bruno being biffed. Of all aspects of Roman culture the Games, for which the Romans built their amphitheatres, are the most sensational, and the most difficult for us to come to terms with.

Some say that they were meant to introduce and inure young Romans to the horrors of national service. Others that they were a substitute after the emperors had banned the national pastime of warfare; and others that it was better and more sporting than watching

England play cricket.

Three sports went on in the arena: the slaughter of wild beasts; the execution of criminals; and the reciprocal killing of Kirk Douglas and other gladiators. Mr Wiewemann suggests that the Romans saw each of these events as an example of the struggle between civilization and chaos. In the gladiatorial contests the forces of chaos consisted of persons who had lost their claim to the protection of Roman society. Socially they were already dead: *Moriuri te salutamus*.

The Games symbolized the Roman state's guarantee to its people that law and civilization would be upheld. Gladiatorial Games came in front in the late second century BC in step with the development of theories of populist sovereignty. Roman Emperors presented

themselves in their PR not as destroyers of pop sovereignty but as its representatives. Hence the connection between gladiatorial Games and the imperial cult. In the same way our Masters make a point of watching the FA Cup-final or blemishing on the Jimmy Young show.

Some Emperors even appeared in the role of gladiators themselves, as Hercules-figures and protectors of the Roman people against lawlessness and barbarism.

The PR symbolism did not always work. The emperors' peculiar position meant that the attempts of "bad" emperors — eg. Caligula and Commodus — to portray themselves as gladiators might easily be interpreted by the opposition as lunacy or tyranny.

Writing off a Mercedes

Stephen Mayhew will not be prosecuted for driving without due care and attention, although he went straight over a roundabout and a garage forecourt, demolishing a petrol pump and hitting a crash barrier, writing off the £20,000 estate car he was driving. But Stephen, from Redhill, Surrey, is only nine.

He took the keys of his father's automatic Mercedes late on Monday, and drove seven miles along the A23 before crashing at Horley.



Seven aliases of Howard Marks and Geoffrey Kenyon (left) and Judith Marks yesterday.

Satellite expansion Murdoch attacks old order

By Richard Evans, Media Editor

Mr Rupert Murdoch, managing director of News International, yesterday attacked the "deciply elitist" BBC and ITV as he predicted that more than six million British homes would have cable or satellite television installed within four years.

Mr Murdoch, whose Sky Television company plans to start beaming four new satellite channels into British homes early next year, said that broadcasting in Britain had been the preserve of the "old establishment" with ITV having protected its commercial monopoly, but now the public and advertisers were demanding more choice.

Dissatisfaction with existing television had been graphically demonstrated by the way sales of video recorders had swept through Britain, faster than anywhere else in the world. "It was bred out of frustration at the thought of programmes they (the viewers) were being force fed by existing TV companies."

Mr Murdoch, speaking at a forum on broadcasting in the 1990s organized by *The Sunday Times*, said he did not

envisage a great problem over TV standards now that competition, in the shape of new channels, was coming. Nationwide support for the Prime Minister's stand against sex and violence on television, and the Broadcasting Standards Council chaired by Sir William Rees-Mogg, was a direct reaction from the public to the liberal standards which had been applied.

The public had standards which they were now going to have a chance to impose. "This is a deep moral society in spite of what we read about in the papers of incidents of hooliganism or incidents of bad public behaviour," he said. Even if someone tried to screen pornography in Britain, there would not be support for it "and it would fail very quickly".

Mr Murdoch denied that the new competition threatened TV news or current affairs. In the United States there had been "tremendous growth" in both areas. Sky Television would be spending more than £100 million a year on programmes, including £25 million to £30 million on its round the clock news channel.

He offered the prospect of a better news service than that currently offered on British television.

Sir William Rees-Mogg told the broadcasting forum that his council would start taking evidence over the next six months from broadcasters and existing regulatory authorities before producing a code of conduct on sex and violence which would work for broadcasters and satisfy the public interest.

He also hinted that there would be only one code which would apply to all broadcast material whether videos, rented at local corner shops, pay-as-you-view television or normal TV services.

However, Mr Murdoch said a single code could lead to nightmare problems especially when it came to people watching videos in their own home. "I think there is a very great deal of difference between broadcasting what most of us may take as an unacceptable movie and an individual wanting to go down to the local store and hiring one for themselves. That's their business."

The future of broadcasting TV chiefs' warning on cash

By Richard Evans, Media Editor

Ms Margaret Thatcher received a twin warning last night from the chairmen of the Independent Broadcasting Authority and Channel 4 about the threat posed to commercial television in Britain if government legislative plans to deregulate broadcasting are too far-reaching.

Lord Thomson of Monifieth, who retires as IBA chairman at the end of this year, said his "fundamental fear" was that the Government would remove ITV stations from their obligation to

full public service broadcasting. Viewers' choice would be diminished, he said.

Writing in the IBA's annual report, Lord Thomson added: "There may be a temptation in some quarters to restore the monopoly of public service television to the BBC, but a BBC straitened for funds and being pushed by unregulated commercial competition towards a cultural ghetto."

"Commercially funded television would, under this scenario, be compelled to behave as if it were any other private

sector industry in the market place.

Sir Richard Attenborough, chairman of Channel 4, referred in its annual report, published yesterday, to the dangers of government plans to "privatize" the station, or change its funding.

He said: "We are in no doubt that the multiplicity of choice our programming currently makes available to British viewers would be severely eroded if we were forced to compete for advertising revenue

MP says BBC misled him

By Philip Webster, Chief Political Correspondent

Mr Frank Dobson, the Labour Party's chief campaign coordinator, criticized the BBC last night after complaining that he had been misled into appearing on a radio programme which turned out to be about Mr Neil Kinnock's leadership qualities.

Mr Dobson was on the point of walking out of the Radio 4 programme, *Call*

Nick Ross, yesterday morning after a heated argument with Mr Ross about its contents. Last night he called the BBC "the state broadcasting corporation" and said he would protest to Mr Marmaduke Hussey, the chairman.

Mr Dobson's office had agreed to his taking part on being told that the call-in programme would be about

the general political situation, including the Labour Party.

But on hearing the trailer to the programme, which made it clear that the programme would be about Mr Kinnock's leadership qualities, Mr Dobson rang the producer and Mr Ross to ask what was going on.

He said that he was assured he would be able to talk about general political matters.

The Season breezes out to gales at Glorious Goodwood

By Alan Hamilton

After enduring the wash-out of Wimbledon and the Hooray Henrys of Henley, those who follow The Season moved out of London yesterday in the interval between the charity balls and Cowes Week to find Goodwood glimmering if gale-torn.

They also experienced the regular feature of all major Season events, the world-class traffic jam.

Racegoers heading for the first day of the July meeting at one of England's most attractive courses

set in a bowl of the Sussex Downs were doubly frustrated by a big accident on the M25 and the traditional bottleneck at Petworth, causing delays of up to an hour.

Those who struggled through found Goodwood in good form. It is Epsom without the gypsies, Ascot without royalty, and the Earl of March and Kimrara, owner of Goodwood House, forbids the rash of unofficial hospitality tents which grows like a white fungus around

other sporting events such as Henley Regatta. Goodwooders are a well behaved crowd, generally sober and suited, the Panama hats much in evidence among the men and women's helmets chastely below the knee. However, they still face the unavoidable penalty of expensive refreshments, with Pimm's at £1.70 a glass and non-vintage champagne at £25.50 a bottle.

The brisk bright spells brought out one stallholder doing a healthy

trade in cut-price sunglasses, although had anyone taken up the chin strap concession he would have made a killing on keeping the Panamas from being snatched and sent rolling by the wind.

The wind also dried out the course which began as good to soft but which undoubtedly hardened up during what any housewife would recognize as a splendid drying day.

Mr Sidney Lewis, a Brighton bookmaker and an institution in the

Silver Ring, celebrated his ninety-first birthday and the fact that the Stewards' Cup, a cavalry charge of 28 runners, was won by the 14-1 outsider Rotherfield Greys, leaving Pat Eddery on Dowling in third place and Steve Cauthen on the favourite, Master Pokey, in fourth.

The Season is back on course after a dismal early summer. If the weather continues to behave as yesterday it will put a fair old wind up Cowes Week.

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Battles continue as UN prepares talks

Iranian towns captured as rebel group joins attacks

By Andrew McEwen, Diplomatic Correspondent

Iranian opposition forces based in Iraq yesterday advanced deep into Iran on the eve of ceasefire talks in New York today between...

Tehran claimed that Iraqi forces were also involved, although Baghdad denied this. The offensive raised questions as to whether the opposition National Liberation Army of Iran (NLA) will respect a ceasefire...

The advance coincided with the arrival in Tehran of seven UN officials to discuss ways of implementing the ceasefire. The team, headed by Lieutenant-General Martin Vadset of Norway...

Baghdad has said repeatedly that it has no intention of keeping captured Iranian territory. It announced on Monday that it would withdraw yesterday from towns cap...

tured during a four-day offensive which began last Friday. Instead, according to Tehran, it took part in one of the deepest penetrations into Iran since the war began in 1980. But an Iraqi minister said that the planned withdrawal was still being prepared.

Iran's news agency, Irna, said that Iraq's troops poured across the border west of the Iranian city of Islamabad-Gharb in the central war zone and advanced to the town of Karand-Gharb. Tehran radio added that both towns had fallen. Islamabad-Gharb is 60 miles east of the border.

Iran's setback was officially admitted in an Armed Forces General Command communiqué, which said resistance continued east of Karand-Gharb and Islamabad-Gharb and reported hand-to-hand fighting in some areas.

A military source quoted by Tehran radio said the Iraqis used "counter-revolutionary mercenaries to infiltrate the people and kill the heroic men and women of the towns".

This was taken as a reference to the NLA, the military wing of Mujahedin Khalq, the main Iranian opposition group, which claimed that its forces had overrun a Revolutionary Guards garrison on the road from Islamabad-Gharb to Bakhtaran, a provincial capital 270 miles south-west of Tehran.

President Saddam Hussein of Iraq has appointed Mr Sadoun Hammadi, a former Foreign Minister and a member of the ruling Revolutionary Command Council, as Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, the Iraqi News Agency reported.

Mr Latif Nassif al-Jassem, the Iraqi Information Minister, denied the Iranian statements that Iraqi forces were on the attack.

and fully consider these reports as lies. Our forces are still stationed several kilometres east of Sar-e-Pol-e-Zahab town and are still inside Gilan-e Gharb town and in the other towns mentioned in Monday's communiqué," he said.

One report of the fighting said that, after the attack during the early hours of the morning, a counter-attack was launched at 7am. "Hundreds of Iraqi troops were killed or wounded in the early hours of the counter-attack," Tehran said.

Urban guerrillas: The Mujahedin Khalq is a left-wing Islamic party which came into being in the early 1970s in Tehran as urban guerrilla cells. Its early targets were American military advisers and government officials (Hashir Teimourian writes).

The party remains highly centralized with a military structure, and is subject to the decisions of its authoritarian leader, Mr Massud Rajavi. It has no significant allies among opponents of the regime.

Its decision to ally with Iraq alienated many supporters, despite the unpopularity of the Ayatollah's regime.

Tokyo politician's apology



Mr Michio Watanabe, head of the policy affairs group of Japan's ruling Liberal Democratic party, bowing in apology in Tokyo yesterday for weekend remarks implying that black people in the US had no qualms about declaring themselves bankrupt to avoid paying debts.

Hamadei 'in Greece' day before hijacking

Frankfurt (AP) - Mohammed Ali Hamadei, charged with murder and air piracy over the June 1985, TWA hijacking, sent a postcard from Greece one day before the Athens-Rome flight was seized, according to evidence introduced in court yesterday.

The card was dated June 13, 1985, and was sent to Herr Paul Müller, the brother of Hamadei's West German girlfriend, Birgit. TWA flight 847 was hijacked on June 14, 1985, and diverted to Beirut. A US Navy diver was shot and killed by the hijackers, and 39 Americans were held hostage for 17 days.

Later yesterday, the former West German wife of Hamadei's older brother testified that Mohammed had made a telephone call to his brother from Iran in August, 1985. In testimony earlier this month, Mohammed Hamadei said that he had visited pilgrimage sites in Iran, possibly in 1985.

In addition, a federal police investigator had testified that Hamadei admitted being a member of the pro-Iranian Hezbollah, which has been linked to the seizure of foreign hostages in Lebanon.

The court heard that, in the text of the postcard, written in German, the defendant said: "Today is my birthday and I am now in Greece."

EEC officials see easy passage for next year's budget

From Michael Dynes, Brussels.

EEC officials were yesterday optimistic about prospects for reaching a rapid agreement on the draft Community budget for 1989, in stark contrast to previous years when discussions have been marred by bitter wrangling over burgeoning agricultural spending.

This unprecedented optimism follows the historic farm reform deal, endorsed by EEC heads of state at the February summit in Brussels, which overhauled the Community's finances and for the first time introduced a legally enforceable ceiling on agricultural spending.

The agreement laid down the broad guidelines for Community spending, including a limit on cereal production of 160 million tons, contributions to Community resources of 1.4 per cent of VAT receipts, and 1 per cent of GNP from each member state, and a doubling of EEC regional funds by 1992.

EEC finance ministers, meeting under the presidency of Mr Yiannos Papanastasiou, Greece's junior Economics Minister, were confident that a Commission proposal setting EEC spending at 46.5 billion European currency units (about £35 billion) would be endorsed quickly.

The proposal, well below the budget ceiling of £33.9 billion, represents an overall increase of 6 per cent on 1988. Agricultural spending is projected at £19.7 billion, marginally below its ceiling of £20 billion, and virtually the same as for this year.

Spending on the structural funds, the mechanism for promoting regional development, is projected at just under £6 billion, a significant increase over previous years. The cost of other policies, including assistance pro-

grammes for the Mediterranean countries, research and development, and the EEC's monetary reserve, are pegged at around £7 billion.

Although the ministerial discussions are expected to be considerably less fraught than they have been in previous years, there were difficulties over just how the February summit package should be interpreted.

There was a dispute between Spain, Italy, Greece, Portugal and Ireland over how to allocate the increased funds for regional development. Greece, which is currently president of the EEC Council of Ministers, had also made a request for additional funds to improve its road transport links with the rest of the Community.

Lord Plumb, the President of the European Parliament, told the ministers that it was imperative they avoid the traditional annual squabble over finances and demonstrate that the EEC was on a sound financial footing as it prepared for the completion of the internal market in 1992.

"All this must change. Public opinion would not understand a return to the budget guerrilla warfare after all the progress of the last six months," he said.

Once agreement is reached, the draft budget will go to the European Parliament for its first reading, before returning to the Council of Ministers for amendments, a second reading by the Parliament and implementation in January.

While observers did not expect last-minute hitches, few were prepared to discount the possibility of a late session on the ground that the group psychology of the Council of Ministers works effectively only when night falls.

Jesuit deported

Asunción (Reuters) - Paraguay expelled a Spanish Jesuit priest and deposited him on the border with Argentina, Roman Catholic Church sources said. Father Juan de la Vega was arrested last week after he gave a lecture on liberation theology, which puts forward what its advocates say is a Bible-based, activist role for the Church in support of the poor but which Paraguayan authorities allege is a Marxist-inspired philosophy. The priest was released without charge three days later. The sources said unidentified men picked him up in an Asunción suburb, forced him into a taxi, and left him on the border 30 miles south of here. No government official would comment on the expulsion 70 days after a visit to Paraguay by the Pope.

Resort killing

Marseille (Reuters) - Tourists strolling by the beach in the southern French resort of La Ciotat fled for cover as gunmen shot dead a motorcyclist in a suspected gangland vendetta, police said.

Rough rides

London (Reuters) - Mountainous seas forced a US millionaire, Mr Tom Gentry, to abandon his bid for the fastest transatlantic sea crossing and transatlantic sea crossing and Italian pul behind schedule an Italian challenge on the record set by Mr Richard Branson, the British entrepreneur, in 1986.

Atomic dump

Brussels (Reuters) - The former head of a Belgian nuclear reprocessing plant and a top aide were charged with dumping radioactive equipment in a wooded shed.

Half century

Yaduz (AP) - Prince Franz Josef II of Liechtenstein celebrated 50 years as the principality's head of state.

Pilot dies

Eggenfelden (Reuters) - A pilot was killed when his microlight plane collided with a Tornado jet fighter of the West German Air Force over Bavaria.

Beaches shut

Moscow (Reuters) - A Soviet health inspector said that severely deteriorating sanitary conditions had forced the closure of many Soviet beaches on the Baltic, Black Sea and Pacific coasts.

Masses flee

Geneva (Reuters) - The number of refugees from northern Somalia fleeing to nearby Ethiopia is expected to top 200,000 by the end of this year, a senior UN official said.

Locust swarm

Addis Ababa (Reuters) - Huge swarms of locusts have been seen in Erirua, the province of northern Ethiopia that is already stricken by war and famine, but no crop damage has yet been reported.

The Post Office Report and Accounts 1987-88.



Sir Bryan Nicholson, Chairman, The Post Office.

"More letters were posted than ever before, parcels traffic rose, and both Post Office Counters and Girobank improved and developed services to customers."

All four businesses contributed to a Group pre-tax profit of £212.2 million compared with £170 million a year ago.

The Post Office today is one of the very few in the world that consistently makes a profit without any form of subsidy. In the EEC it is the only one with a subsidy-free profit record over 12 successive years.

The Group is investing heavily in services and technology for the 1990s and beyond. Capital spending Group-wide was £152.6 million including some £29 million on computers and £56 million on vehicles.

The Post Office can be proud of its record on prices. The basic second class stamp is still only a halfpenny more than six years ago, and first class letter prices have been unchanged since October 1986.

The Royal Mail is now handling some 51 million letters a day, a volume increase of 30% in five years. This has helped to create 18,000 new Post Office jobs in the past two years with the prospect of a further 22,000 over the next five if growth continues as predicted.

Service excellence calls for sustained effort over a long period. Practical moves to achieve this included an investment of an extra £18 million in letter deliveries last year with 400,000 more addresses getting second deliveries. The UK is one of the few EEC countries receiving two deliveries each day to more than 90 per cent of addresses - right to the front door.

For Post Office Counters the priority is to speed service and reduce queuing time. We are already seeing some improvement and the drive will continue. Action includes more part-time staff at peak periods, quick-service counter positions, more single queuing systems and hundreds of new stamp vending machines.

Royal Mail Parcels continues to consolidate its place as the number one parcels carrier, and the launch of SuperService puts the business in a strong position to progress on all fronts in a highly competitive market.

The announcement that Girobank is to be transferred to the private sector came in June and, as the results show, it is a thriving bank with a lot to offer the prospective acquirer. A privatised Girobank, with free access to capital markets and the ability to expand and develop its operations, will be a significant force in the banking world. For the Post Office this should mean more business through our 21,000 counters outlets.

Looking ahead, I intend to keep close and continuous links with the user groups and with our customers. I have been visiting Post Office locations all over the country to see for myself and to talk to customers and staff, and I have learned a lot. The key objective is getting service right as our customers see it. That is my foremost concern.

TURNOVER AND PROFIT	1987-88	1986-87
	£m	£m
Turnover	3790.8	3473.3
Trading profit before taxation	212.2	170.0

The above statements are taken from Sir Bryan Nicholson's first annual report as Chairman of The Post Office. For your copy of The Post Office Annual Report and Accounts 1987-88, write to: Report 88, Freepost, London SW1X 1EE.



In business to serve you.

Survey of voters maintains Shamir's hope for return to power

Right gains support from young Israelis after uprising

From Ian Murray Jerusalem

Israeli youth are increasingly right-wing and seem ready to help Mr Yitzhak Shamir and his Likud faction return to power in November's general election.

popularity has been waning, and in March the right-wing parties took the lead in the polls - a position they have maintained.

Tel Aviv (Reuter) - The first Israeli diplomats to visit the Soviet Union in 21 years set out yesterday, saying they would begin their trip by meeting Soviet Jews at a Moscow synagogue.

Western Jews backing Labour and Oriental Jews supporting Likud. Only 8.7 per cent were true floating voters.

showed in answers to other questions that they supported the right. The remaining 5 per cent backed religious parties.

nationally still the most popular choice for Prime Minister, with 35 per cent wanting him compared with 32 per cent for Mr Shamir.

because they thought our researchers were part of Shin Bet (the counter-intelligence agency).

Burmese reshuffle hints at splits in the ruling party

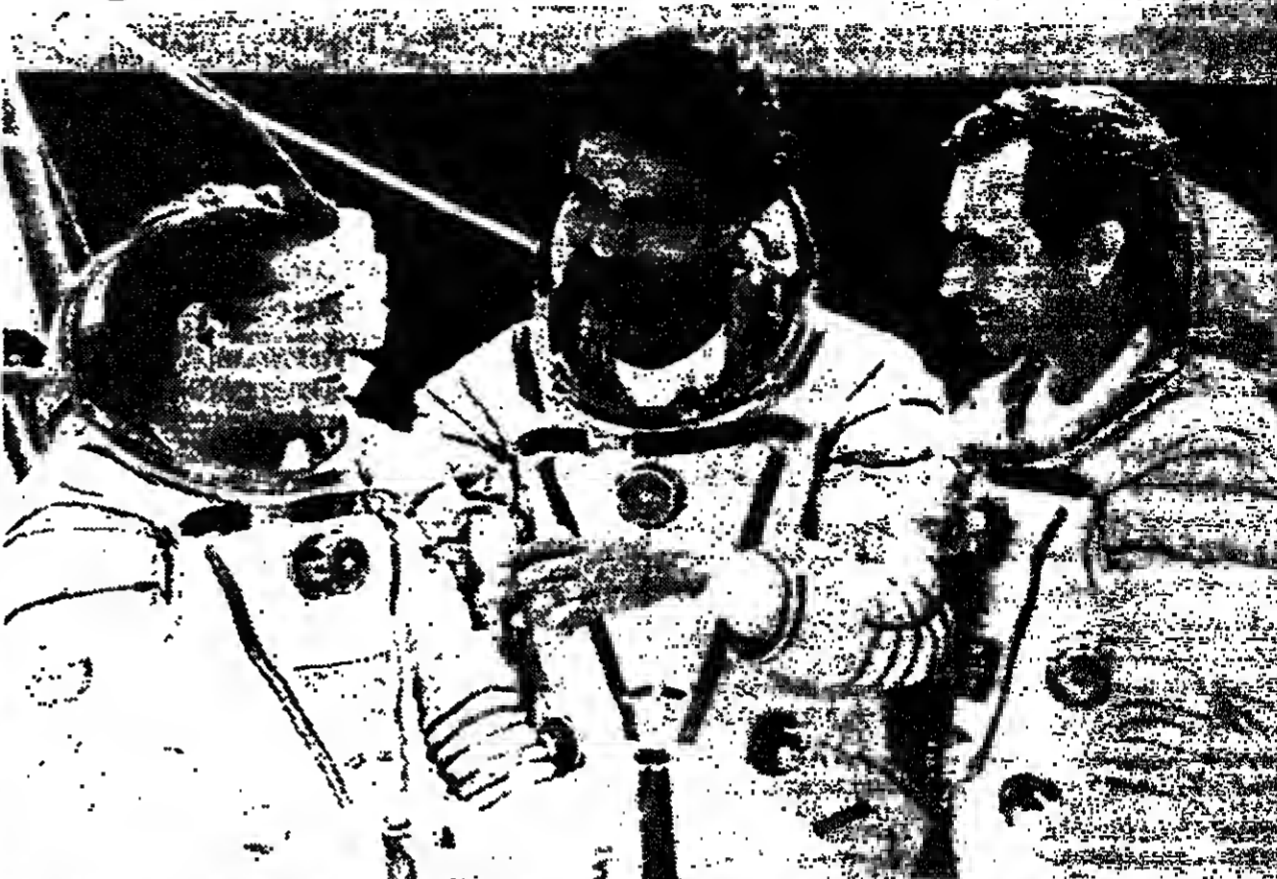
Rangoon (AP) - Burma's governing Socialist Programme Party yesterday elected a former military officer, U Sein Lwin, to replace General Ne Win, who had wielded authoritarian power for 26 years.

post. Succeeding U Sein Lwin as Joint General Secretary was U Kyaw Htin, a member of the party's most powerful body, the Central Executive Committee, who also has been serving as Deputy Prime Minister and Defence Minister.

270 members. An extraordinary party congress session ended on Monday with a vaguely worded announcement and confusion - possibly reflecting splits within the ranks of the party.

failed to state clearly that the delegates accepted General Ne Win's resignation. A delegate said General Ne Win and U San Yu would be retained as "inactive members" of the party.

Afghan trains for joint space mission



An Afghan researcher, Mr Abdul Mokhammad (centre), speaking with the Soviet cosmonaut Vladimir Lyakhov (left) and a physician, Dr Valery Polyakov, as they undertook sea training for a joint Afghan-Soviet space mission.

Hardliner takes the helm in Rangoon

By Anatol Lieven

The choice of U Sein Lwin, aged 64, as the new chairman of the Burma Socialist Programme Party has been the most surprising development in a week not short on surprises.

Rangoon in March. Stories of police torture and rape were important in turning the mood of the population against the Government.

struggle is raging between reformers and hardliners. This explanation has been advanced by former Brigadier-General Aung Gyi in an interview with the BBC World Service.

their decision in the Parliament that begins today. Some observers consider it possible that all this is a ruse by General Ne Win to get the Burmese people to call on him to remain instead of the hated U Sein Lwin.

Rebels step up Kabul rocket barrage

Islamabad (Reuter) - Afghan guerrillas rained 170 rockets on Kabul last week in one of the most sustained barrages of the nine-year war, Western diplomats said yesterday.

day and sometimes salvos of up to 10 at a time. But Mr Jaz Gilani, an Afghan analyst with Pakistan's Institute of Strategic Studies, said there was no indication that rebel forces trying to topple the Soviet-backed Government were in any position seriously to threaten the capital.

There were five protracted barrages apparently entailing co-ordinated guerrilla action from different sides of the city, another diplomat said.

forces had withdrawn from their outermost defences. They had also recently acquired longer-range rockets. The seizure of territory south of Kabul has given them control of infiltration routes from border areas.

Pardon halts trial of security men

Harare - Charges against two senior Zimbabwean law officers over the death of a physically handicapped Briton alleged to have been severely assaulted in their custody, have been withdrawn (Jan Raath writes).

Witnesses due to give evidence against Mr Blessing Zuzidza, the Central Intelligence Organization officer in charge in the southern town of Beitbridge, and Mr Misheck Zwamashakwa, the police commander there, were told to go home on Monday after the state prosecutor at the Bulawayo Regional Court learnt that Mr Zuzidza had been on a presidential pardon list since May.

Union battle at printing plant embarrasses Rocard

From Philip Jacobson Paris

Tear-gas grenades, shotgun blasts and volleys of catapulted ball bearings have ushered in the most serious confrontation between France's Communists and the newly elected Socialist Government.

guards hired by the owner, M Jean Didier, who is often described as an irascible and authoritarian employer, promptly declared a lock-out. Despite a subsequent court order to lift this, he went on to demand the sacking of another 22 employees, almost all of whom were CGT representatives at his plant.

While the CGT was saying that this decision would be actively opposed "in every factory, in law, and if necessary in the streets", Didier employees began an increasingly active protest campaign, occupying other printing works and destroying many thousands of magazines awaiting distribution in the Paris region.

From the start the Government's attitude has been somewhat ambivalent. M Jean-Pierre Soisson, the Minister of Labour, has called on M Didier to end the lockout pending official arbitration - a proposal the crusty industrialist turned down flat.

When yesterday's well-advertised confrontation began, M Pierre Joxe, the Minister of the Interior, refrained from dispatching uniformed police to the scene until hostilities were well under way.

of the holiday season, could hardly be expected to hold the ring in this "lamentable business". In the event, after a running battle lasting several hours, M Didier, flanked by hired security men, left the Massy plant under escort from the much-feared CRS riot squad and the jubilant militants moved in.

Manila rejects offer

Manila - The Philippines suspended talks on the future of US military bases in the country, saying that Washington was not offering enough money (Humphrey Hawkesley writes). The Government said "there was substantial disagreement on the compensation issue".

WASHINGTON: The State Department said there had been a number of breakdowns in negotiations and talks were expected to resume. Mr Charles Redman said the end of the month was a "target date" for completing the talks.

Slovenes exchange their dinars for fast living

From Richard Bassett, Ljubljana

Standing with her gleaming new motor scooter, Luchka is no stranger to luxury. With her friends, all second-year medical students, she epitomizes the wealth and materialism which have converted a sleepy Alpine town into a brash, fast-moving city in less than two years.

entire income. Slovenes claim, is generated in the northern-most republic, inhabited by barely two million people. But not all Slovenes are happy with the changes. The flashy conversion of old hotels into marble-and-brass discotheques is seen by some young Slovenes as the cheapest form of materialism. Older party members are equally sceptical.

absurd their party discipline is," one of the group insisted. The Slovenes are not nostalgic for the days of German or Austrian rule. But their geographical position, sandwiched between Italy and Austria, gives them a different outlook from the Serbs in Belgrade.

"the most rational figures in this game". Even *Mladina*, the Slovene youth magazine, three of whose journalists are on trial, is unstinting in praising the police.

question what their response would be. Among those supporting the *Mladina* journalists are veterans of the partisan war against the Nazis and a host of middle-aged professional women. Despite this broad consensus of support among Slovenes for *Mladina*, nationalism is not at the root of the trial. Rather it is a dispute between the old guard (in Slovenia as well as in Serbia) and the forces which liberalization unleashed on a civilized Central European intelligentsia enjoying a much higher standard of living than its ultimate masters in Belgrade.

Anti-Gandhi merger

Delhi - Four of India's opposition parties took a step towards formal merger yesterday in a move intended to challenge the dominance of the Congress Party of the Prime Minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi (Our Correspondent writes).

Mr V.P. Singh, the former Defence Minister who defeated the Government candidate in a June by-election in Allahabad, said that the planned new party, the Samajwadi Janata Dal (Socialist People's Party), would bring together his Jan Morcha party with the Janata Party, the Lok Dal and the Congress-S Party. A formal merger is planned for August 15.

Serbia strengthens hold on provinces

Ljubljana - In an effort to reassure Serbs living in the two autonomous provinces of Kosovo and Vojvodina, the Serbian Parliament in Belgrade approved amendments yesterday giving it greater control over the provinces (Richard Bassett writes).

rather than remain and be swamped by Albanians. In the province of Vojvodina, where half of the inhabitants are Hungarians, the strengthening will also reassure Serbs who have become increasingly uneasy about their rights. Last week several thousand of them demonstrated to demand a tightening of Serbian control.

Meanwhile, in Slovenia yesterday the military court which is trying three Slovene journalists and an officer for handling military secrets adjourned to reach a verdict.

While elements of Slovenia society are embracing the late 1980s with vigour, other sections, including the Army and some members of the party, are still frozen in the Tito era, mindful of their privileges and fearful of any change.

With the deteriorating economic situation, it is money more than ever - as the privileged scooter-riders of Ljubljana show - which becomes the key to prestige, and ultimately Yugoslavia's future.

Libya link in attack

Athens - A senior Greek police officer yesterday confirmed that weapons linked with the massacre on the cruise ship City of Poros two weeks ago belonged to an Italian arms consignment sold to Libya (A Correspondent writes).

Similar weapons have been used in IRA attacks in Europe, he said. Police believe the attack was an attempt to force the release of Mohammed Rashid, a Palestinian jailed in Greece.

Heatwave kills 1,300

Peking (Reuter) - Crematoria in southern China are working overtime to cope with victims of a prolonged heatwave which has killed more than 1,300 people.

A manager of Hangzhou's city funeral parlour said yesterday that none of his staff could take time off and were working double shifts in their three premises.



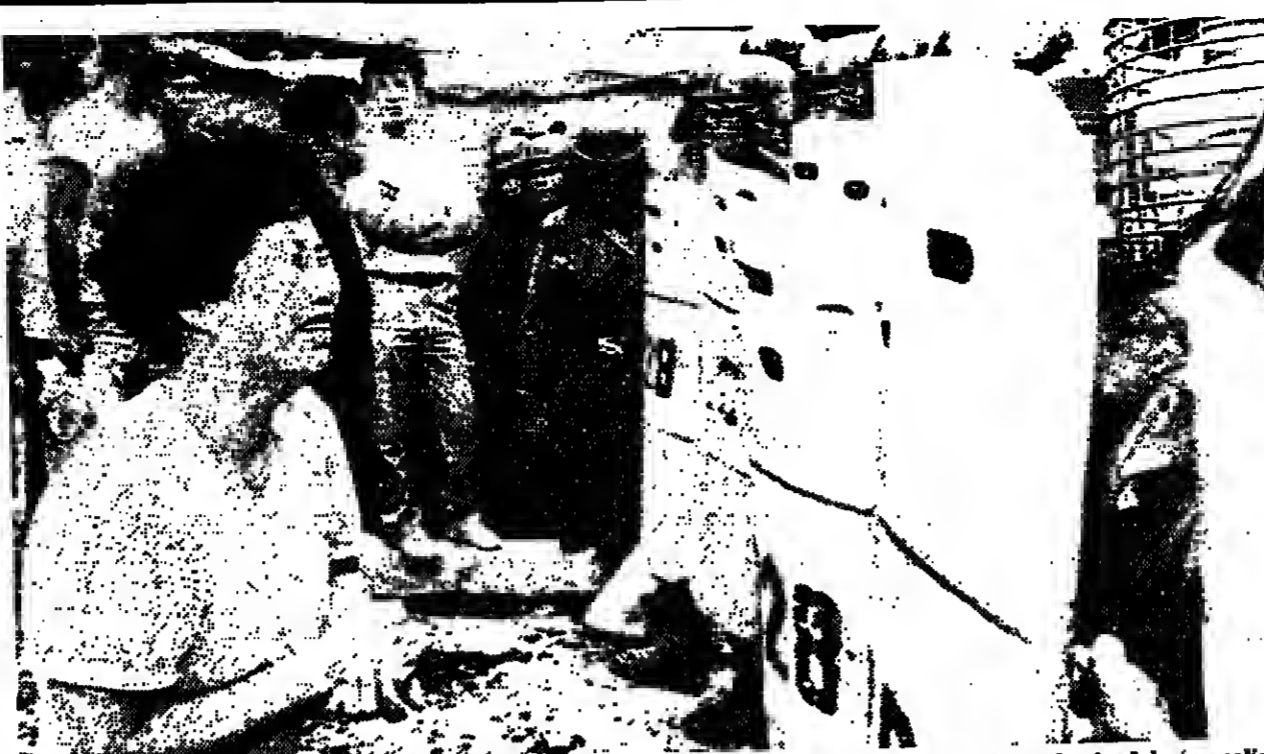
Vertical text on the right edge of the page, including "Nort fres for O", "Hayde Liber of rep", and "Inquir not by".

Pyongyang proposals and a rail strike bring confusion to South Korea

North makes fresh offer for Olympics

From John Gittelsohn, Seoul

North Korea proposed yesterday that its members of Parliament meet Southern MPs to discuss co-hosting and participation in the Olympic Games which begin in Seoul on September 17.



The wife of a striking railway worker weeping in front of a line of riot police after her husband was detained during police dispersal of workers at a Seoul station yesterday. It is the first strike to affect South Korea's railway system.

The domestic political situation, a reading of the international situation, or a variety of things. Some observers said North Korea chose to meet the Opposition-controlled National Assembly, hoping to exploit Seoul's political differences.

Government plans to replace 4,273 striking train drivers with managers, retired staff or recruits. Although Korean workers have made recent strides in gaining the right to organize trade unions, the law still forbids strikes by public employees.

Vietnam demands end to support for Khmer Rouge

Bogor, Indonesia (Reuter) - Vietnam and the Cambodian Prime Minister, Mr Hun Sen, have demanded an end to outside support for the Khmer Rouge and a dismantling of its guerrilla army.

He put forward his proposals at the opening session on Monday, the first full-scale Cambodian peace conference since Vietnam invaded almost 10 years ago. The Indonesian Foreign Minister, Mr Ali Alatas, describing the atmosphere on Monday as good and constructive, said the aim of yesterday's session was to thrash out areas of difference between the four factions, divided by more than a decade of bloodshed and enmity.

Australia and the Crown

Hayden sidesteps Liberal charge of republicanism

By Andrew McEwen, Diplomatic Correspondent

Mr John Howard, the leader of the Opposition in Australia, looked aggrieved. The representative of The Times had called at his London hotel with the unwelcome news that Mr Bill Hayden, the country's Foreign Minister, had denied being a republican.



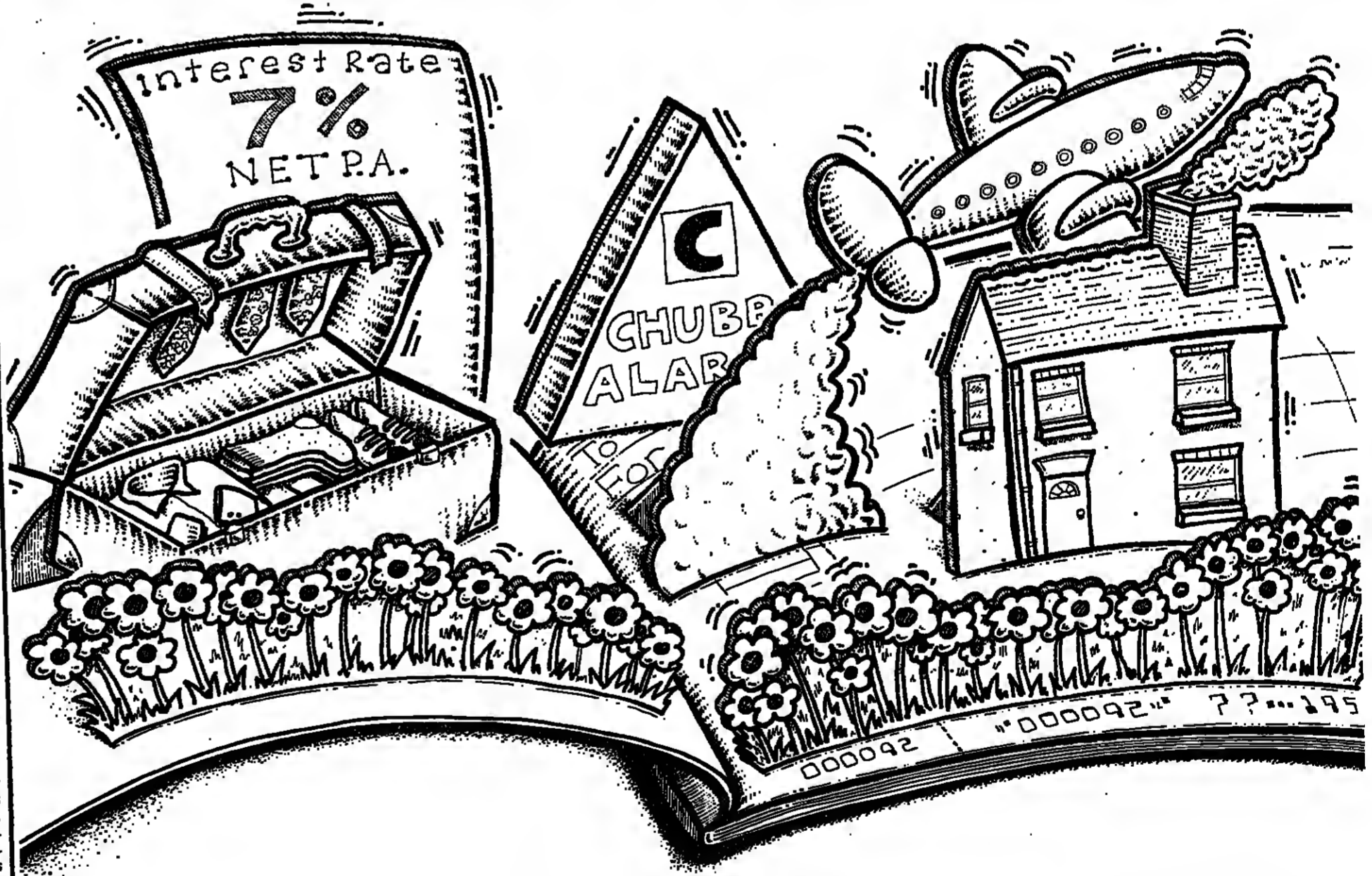
Mr Howard: Short of issues with appeal for electorate. Mr Hayden was a long-standing advocate of dropping Australia's constitutional link with the Crown.

Inquiry begins on riot by Aborigines

From Christopher Morris, Sydney

The West Australian port of Geraldton was tense but calm last night after an investigation was ordered into a riot by Aborigines protesting at the death in police custody of an Aboriginal football player.

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On a lighter note, TSB are pleased to introduce you to the best in British gardening. Throughout the year, you will be offered choice selections from Blooms of Bressingham - starting with a free copy of the magnificent Bressingham Gardens 1988 catalogue.



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rate tax) on every penny. Whilst at the same time maintaining instant access to all your money - just as you would with a standard cheque account.

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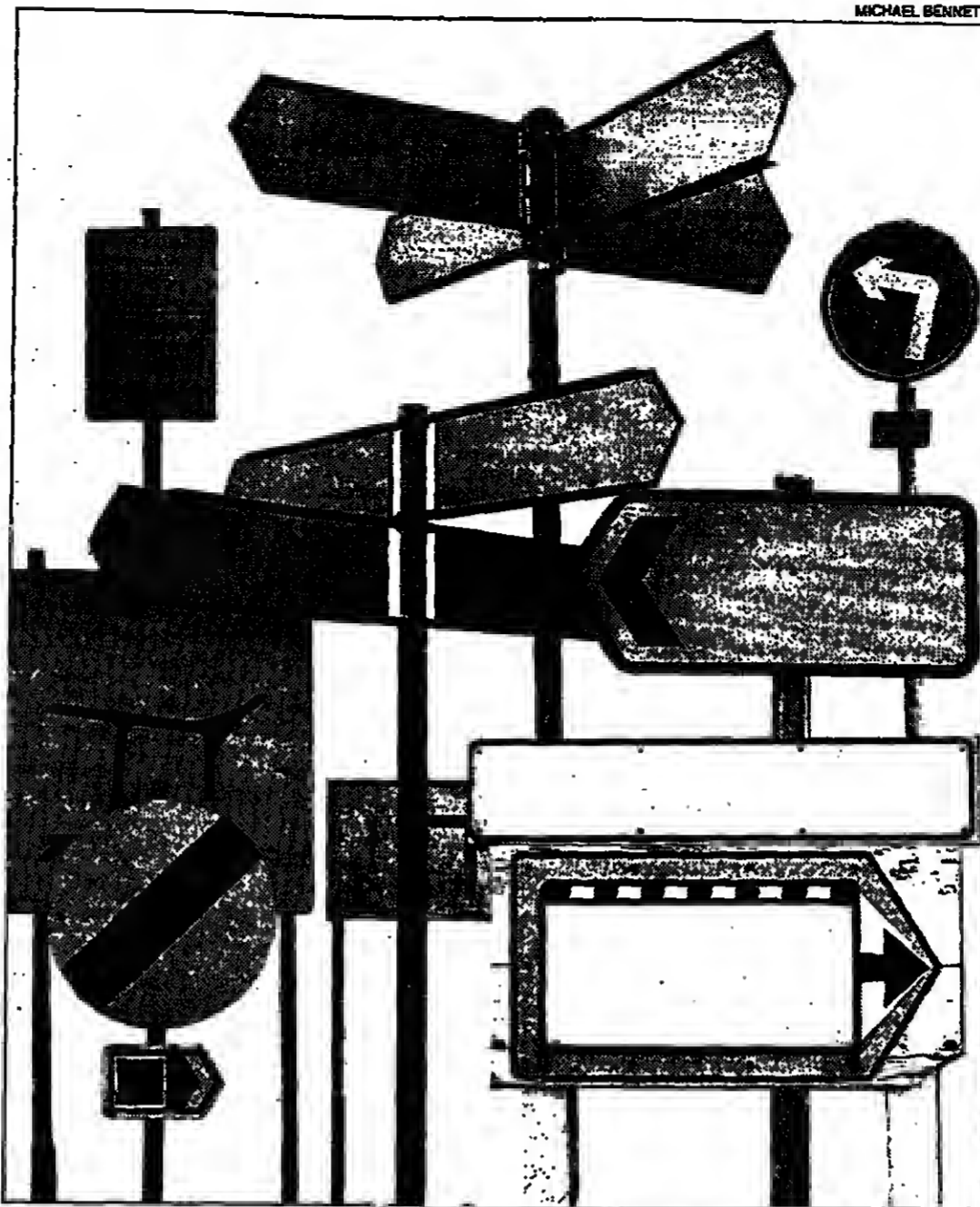
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SPECTRUM

Danger . . . signposts at work

The most confusing way to travel between two points on the British roads can be to follow the route indicated by the signposts, Alan Franks reports. To test the theory, The Times sent a team of reporters on to the highways



MICHAEL BENNETT

In Britain the worst sign-posted country in the world? The fury of motorists who pursue a destination which is shown at one crossroads, only to disappear at the next, would suggest that it is.

Last year, in a classic piece of understatement, a Department of Transport review of signposts concluded that "much can be done to improve signing". More tellingly, a survey being carried out for the Government by the independent MVA Consultancy estimates that, for a one-off expenditure on new signs, huge savings could be made annually by reducing the accidents and road maintenance costs which result from drivers plying backwards and forwards in search of their turning.

GLASGOW TO AYR

A quick run from Glasgow to Ayr via the A77 to Kilmarston, and once there I head for the town centre's one-way system. There are no signs to Dregghora, barely three miles west. After being told that Dregghora is off the A71 road for Irvine, I look for signs to Irvine. Driving up John Finlay Street I can see a sign indicating a right turn to Ayr.

GLASGOW TO AYR

There are signs for the Ayr racecourse but not for Butlins. Assuming, wrongly, that it may take me to Irvine (they are both west of Kilmarston) I turn right. I find myself driving beside a canal.

GLASGOW TO AYR

Dregghora is not signposted at all. By the time I have reached Irvine (about five miles distant) I have by-passed Dregghora.

MANCHESTER AND CHESHIRE

Gerald Rossier's commentary on his attempt to penetrate the motorway network of the north-west was crisp. Landing at Manchester Airport, his destination Glasgow, he rented a car. "I got lost immediately," he says.

And Ryan's contention that there is a national problem of not telling people when they have arrived is proved time and again on a journey to Manchester. Signs repeatedly proclaim "town centre" but the question is: which town?

MANCHESTER AND CHESHIRE

There is a problem of not telling people they have arrived at a destination. Therein lies a story of bent signs, broken signs, baffling signs. Worst of all, perhaps, of signs that dump one in the middle of nowhere.

John Ryan, the AA highways and traffic inspector for the north-west, and I, emulated Rossier's journey. Ryan has taken up Rossier's case with the Department of Transport and Environment, suggesting that it would be better if the M6 was signposted "north" and "south" outside the airport.

BIRMINGHAM AND THE M6

The sign was big and bold. It revealed that Manchester was 81 miles ahead. A helpful sign, perhaps, for a weary motorist speeding north on the M6 motorway. But, what purpose did it serve on the west-bound carriageway of Birmingham's crowded middle ring road?

BIRMINGHAM AND THE M6

Another typical example occurs when we come off the M6 at junction 11 and try to find our way to Cannock on the A460. Cannock is signposted three times on the roundabout above the motorway, but there is no final indication which of four roads we should take.

GLASGOW TO AYR

So far so good, but once on to Dumbreck Road most motorists would carry on at the next major crossroads with St Andrews Drive and into Titwood Road. There is a signpost telling the driver to turn left - unfortunately it is on the far right-hand side of the crossroads.

GLASGOW TO AYR

I head back to the one-way system, and circle the town centre twice. I notice a sign for Irvine towards the west. It appears there are two signs for Irvine in Portland Road, one straight on, another to the left.

GLASGOW TO AYR

Approaching Ayr on the A77 I look for signs for Butlins. There are signs for the Racecourse and for Calzean Castle. None for Butlins. Finally, I ask the way, twice. I find Butlins, unsigned, on the coastal road to Dunure and Drumshang.

SCIENCE

Time to compromise on the universe?

A proposal that two camps of cosmologists might settle their differences by roughly splitting the difference between their rival estimates of the speed of expansion of the universe has been put forward by R. Brent Tully, an astronomer at the University of Hawaii.

The essence of Tully's argument is that, in some methods of estimating the expansion speed, and thus the age of the universe, too little account has been taken of how our galaxy may be affected by the gravitational pull of the other relatively near galaxies making up what is called the Coma-Scorpius cloud. This is a local collection of galaxies that makes the region exceptionally dense compared with the universe as a whole, and which is itself influenced by the even larger Virgo cluster of galaxies.

roughly 10,000 million years. Writing in the current issue of Nature, Tully says that the origin of the difference lies in a "perversity of nature" which he describes as "the local velocity anomaly", itself a consequence of the clumping of excess mass in the Coma-Scorpius cloud.

Are there any losers in the business of the America's Cup?



De Savary: in it to win it

A young man who has to ask what the America's Cup costs should not go near it - except as a spectator. Endless blood and treasure has been expended over 137 years pursuing yachting's Holy Grail. Open-ended funding of the Kookaburra defence of the 1987 Cup in Australia cost the Perth businessman Kevin Perry control of his vast business interests - ranging from mining to supermarkets - and much of his personal fortune.



Berry: "a business venture"

Designers get to draw boats more imaginative than any they would dare propose to a commercial client and sailors have the chance to race at the highest level and be paid for it. Characters like Peter de Savary, Michael Fay and Alan Bond are able to exercise skills and play that, in an earlier generation, they could have used on the battlefield.

LAURA ASHLEY Summer SALE FURTHER REDUCTIONS AT ALL LAURA ASHLEY SHOPS AND HOMEBASES

TIMES DIARY

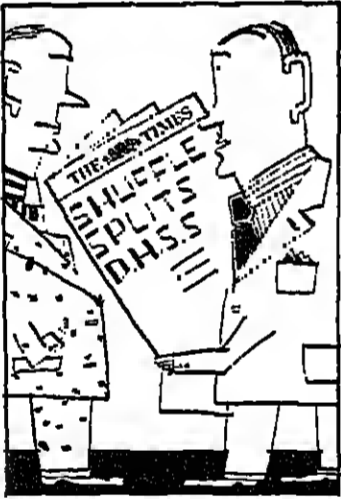
MARTIN FLETCHER

As Church leaders continue their deliberations at the Lambeth Conference...

Without the committee's endorsement, the Commons would almost certainly vote down the Synod's proposal...

I have been sent a proof copy of Sir Geoffrey Howe's semi-official biography...

BARRY FANTONI



Another case of Moore meaning less

The launch of Labour's new think tank, the Institute for Policy Research, has led to some legal scurrying...

But perhaps the new outfit's links with Labour are not that close either. At yesterday's launch...

Never underestimate politicians' sense of self-importance. A history will be published this autumn...

I rang the European Commission last week to find out exactly what Leon Brittan will earn as European Commissioner...

Kenneth Clarke, put in charge yesterday of the new Ministry of Health...

Whatever reforms of the Health Service the government introduces there will be terrible cries from the vested interests...

This is where Clarke comes in. Since most of the work on the reforms has already been done...

Those who favour radical reform should not lose sight of the qualities that the Health Service possesses...

Celebrating his victory in a general election some years ago, a Tory knight of the shires...

That seems to be to be roughly what the British electorate has been saying about the Liberal Party for the past 30 years...

Lenin didn't think much of liberals either. When a liberal is shamed, he says: thank God they didn't beat me...

I know, of course, that technically the Liberal Party has been delivered from its mortal clasp...

There was a time in the late 1950s when Jo Grimond gave a passable imitation of someone who was going to pull it off...

The dismemberment of the old Austro-Hungarian Empire carried with it dismemberment of the old Kingdom of Hungary...

It was part of the original kingdom of St Stephen, first king of Hungary in 997...

Between the wars, Transylvania's Hungarian minority grew in numbers until today it is somewhere around two million out of a total of seven million...

I rang the European Commission last week to find out exactly what Leon Brittan will earn as European Commissioner...

David Hart puts forward an agenda for Kenneth Clarke

Health: let the wealthy pay

socialist-inspired bureaucracy. Those opposing reform - except the spending of more public money - must accept that the Health Service as presently organized will never be good enough for Thatcher's Britain...

As reported in The Times recently, the mortality rate of patients in some hospitals is seven times higher than in others...

In the late Macmillan era he made some good, rousing speeches. One of them was all about the red meat of politics...

Then it was Jeremy Thorpe's turn - not such a good mind, better impersonations, all the fun of the fair...

The workman stopped and had a look at him. You didn't see many brown bowlers in Rutherglen in those days...

Eventually, alas, the entertainment that Jeremy had to offer got a bit out of hand. The baton passed to David Steel...

work in collectives. The project is intended to be completed in 12 years...

Commentary • WOODROW WYATT

Ethnics we must help

The Hungarian minorities in Czechoslovakia, Yugoslavia and Russia are treated no worse - grim though life may be - than the other citizens of those countries...

Romania will not now let Hungarians out and it has halted family visits across its borders. Tiny Hungary could not possibly absorb the extra two million Hungarians from Romania even if they were allowed to leave...

Broadly there are two sensible ways that a modern state can make sure that the needy get proper health care...

This means a readiness to privatize parts of the NHS, including some hospitals. It also means a substantial expansion of private health insurance...

It is no surprise that the MORI poll found that 45 per cent said they would take out private health insurance if they could afford it.

The best approach is to give tax credits to those who are prepared to insure and, as a *quid pro quo*, to oblige them to contract out of the NHS...

The NHS will have to continue to provide for all accidents, most emergencies, chronic illnesses and much mental illness...

The Government will have to demonstrate that a reformed Health Service will perform better in order to secure public acceptance of a substantial expansion of the private sector...

This will require reform of the entire administrative apparatus. To have created a new Department of Health is a welcome step...

Ian McIntyre

Charm of the light brigade



if anyone could. The soggy left and the solid centre would kiss and make up and the old ladies would lay aside their knitting...

being done to the Hungarians in Romania would excite worldwide protest if it were being done to blacks in South Africa...

front, though his followers might not always be there when he looked round. He sounds a bit like the cavalry saboteur...

public spending. But public pressure has more often been mustered of the public purse where health spending is concerned...

Put like that, by the not very radical but exceptionally articulate Kenneth Clarke, there is every chance that the electorate would accept the reforms that are necessary.

A quiz: "Can't see that there's so much in him," said one young member of Parliament to Sir Cosmo...

A passage from a new romance about the Tory Party, co-authored by Jeffrey Archer and Barbara Cartland? Not quite...

There was a time when Liberals could expect all the advice they needed from within their own ranks...

JULY 27 ON THIS DAY 1877

The strike began on the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad at Martinsburg and rapidly spread to Pittsburgh...

THE AMERICAN RAILWAY STRIKE

Philadelphia, JULY 26 Although the Railway Strike is spread over a wider area, no serious disturbance occurs...

At San Francisco a body of 7,000 citizens is guarding the city, and two-way strikes with Federal troops and Marines are in waiting...

COURT AND SOCIAL

COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE July 26: The Lieutenant-Governor of Alberta had the honour of being received by The Queen...

Wales and The Princess Margaret, Countess of Snowdon were present. The Queen's Body Guard of the Yeoman of the Guard were on duty...

HMS Sheffield brings back memories



A survivor of the warship HMS Sheffield, last during the Falklands conflict, joined the crew of her £100 million replacement yesterday.

Lieutenant Colin Haley, aged 38, led the guard at today's commissioning of the stainless steel-covered HMS Sheffield at Hull, Hamber-side. He is seen, above right, with Chief Petty Officer Terry Tarnell, with the new ship.

About 800 guests, including relatives of the ship's crew and of those who died when the last ship was sunk by an Exocet missile in 1982, saw the replacement being handed over to its captain.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr J. Goshall and Miss K. Hart. The engagement is announced between Jonathan, elder son of Mr and Mrs J.B. Goshall, of Loudwater, Hertfordshire, and Katharine, second daughter of Mr and Mrs N.J.R. Hart, of Watford, Hertfordshire.

Funeral Service

Air Commodore F.M.F. West, VC. On Wednesday, July 20, a funeral service was held for Air Commodore Ferdinand Maurice Felix West, VC, at St Edward the Confessor Catholic Church, Windsor.

Marriages

Mr R.M. Barron and Miss K.A. Fletcher. The marriage took place on July 23, in the Chapel of Farmington School, Chislehurst, Kent, of Mr Roderick Michael Barron, son of Sir Donald and Lady Barron, of Bishopthorpe, York.

Anniversaries

BIRTHS: Jean Bernoulli, mathematician, Basel, 1667; Thomas Campbell, poet, Glasgow, 1777; Sir George Biddell Airy, Astronomer-Royal 1836-92, Alkwick, Northumberland, 1801; Hilire Bellec, writer, Celles, St. Louis, France, 1870; Giose Carducci, poet, Nobel laureate 1906, Valdcastello, Italy, 1835; Enrique Granados, Llerida, Spain, 1867.

Birthdays today

Mr Peter Coker, artist, 62; Mr Christopher Dean, ice skater, 30; Sir Ronald Dearing, former chairman, Post Office Corporation, 78; Miss Jo Darie, tennis player, 28; Dame Mary Green, former headmistress, Kidbrooke School, 75; Mr Jack Higgins, novelist, 59; Mr Robert Holmes, a Court, company chairman, 51; Lord Jenkins of Putney, 80; Professor J.O.D. McGee, pathologist, 49; Sir James Munn, chairman, Training Commission, 68; Sir Denis Rickard, civil servant, 81; Mrs Shirley Williams, former MP, 58.

Today's royal engagements

The Queen will hold an investiture at Buckingham Palace at 11.00. The Prince of Wales will attend a concert at the Barbican Centre at 8.00 sponsored by C.T. Bowring and Company, to mark the outbreak of the First World War.

OBITUARY

MR STUART LEGG

Influential wartime documentary film maker

Stuart Legg who died on July 23, at the age of 77, was one of the senior documentary film producers engaged by John Grierson in the 1930s. Francis Stuart Legg was born in 1910, and educated at Marlborough and St John's College, Cambridge.

DR GWYNNE VEVERS

Dr Gwynne Vevvers, MBE, who died on July 24, aged 71, was an eminent marine biologist, whose clear style enabled him to write on complex subjects for the layman.

BISHOP GUY SANDERSON

The Right Rev Guy Sanderson, Suffragan Bishop of Plymouth from 1962 to 1972, who died on July 22, at the age of 82, will chiefly be remembered as an exponent of the ministry of healing and one who experienced the meaning of this himself.

RICHARD HOLM

Richard Holm, the German opera singer, died in Munich on July 20, aged 72. He was one of the more distinguished tenors on the international operatic scene in the decades after the Second World War.

THE REV LEONARD COULSHAW

The Rev Leonard Coulshaw, CB, MC, Chaplain of the Fleet and Archdeacon of the Royal Navy from 1948 to 1952, died on July 22, at the age of 92. He began his association with the forces in the Army, enlisting in the Essex Regiment at the outbreak of the First World War.

Carpenters' Company

The following have been elected officers of the Carpenters' Company for the ensuing year: Master, Mr J.G. Ridley; Senior Warden, Mr P.C. Osborne; Middle Warden, Mr D.H. Marriott; Junior Warden, Mr H.M.F. Barnes.

Dinner

HM Government Lord Young of Graffham, Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, was host at a dinner held last night at Lancaster House in honour of Lieutenant-General Ippola Alani Akinrinde, Nigerian Minister of Industry.

Esme Fairbairn Charitable Trust

Sir Robert Andrew, currently engaged in a review of Government Legal Services for the Prime Minister, will become Director of the Esme Fairbairn Charitable Trust from January 1, 1989. He will take over from Mr Edgar Falkenstein who has resigned his position as trustee. Mr John Fairbairn has succeeded Mr Denis Oppé as chairman of the trust.

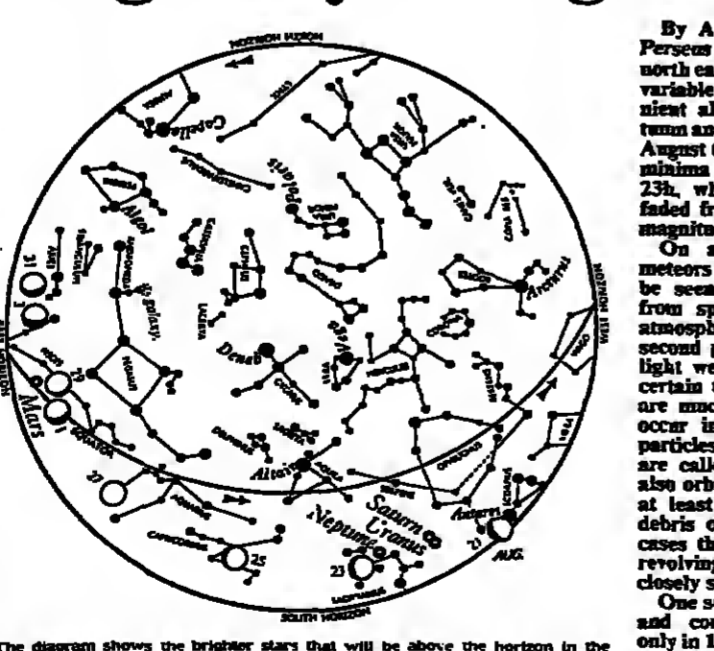
Church news

Scottish Episcopal Church The Rev J.B. Doty has resigned as President of St Ninian's Cathedral, Perth (St Andrew's, Dundee and Dunblane) to return to America.

Astronomy The night sky in August

By Michael Hendrie Astronomy Correspondent

Mercury is at superior conjunction on the 3rd after which it becomes an evening star but sets no more than 30 minutes after sunset and is unlikely to be seen. Venus is a brilliant morning object of -4.5 magnitude and rises around 01h throughout the month, up to four hours before the Sun.

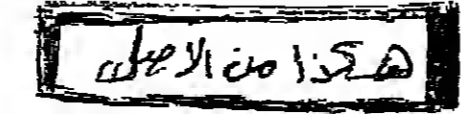


By August the constellation Perseus is coming up in the north east at dusk and brings the variable star Algol to a convenient altitude through the summer months. In the first half of August there are two observable minima about 17d 02h and 19d 23h, when the star will have faded from its usual 2.1 to 3.4 magnitude.

Any clear dark night some meteors or 'shooting stars' may be seen when small particles from space enter the Earth's atmosphere at many miles per second producing the streak of light called a meteor. But at certain times of the year these are much more numerous and occur in 'shower'. Meteoric particles or 'meteoroids', as they are called when in space, are also orbiting the Sun and some at least are derived from the debris of comets and in some cases there exist today comets revolving round the Sun in closely similar orbits.

One such case is the Perseids and comet Swift-Tuttle seen only in 1862, but due to return in the 1980s. The Perseids were traditionally known as 'The Tears of St Lawrence' and have been known for nearly 2,000 years. They give a good shower most bright when at their best on August 11th-13th, when they usually show 60 meteors per hour, though in very good years they may be double.

The 'radiant', the area of sky from where they appear to come, lies in the area between Perseus, Cassiopeia and Camelopardalis. With the Moon new in the 12th conditions are ideal for observing the shower this year: next year the Moon will be between first quarter and full over the Perseid maximum and all but the brightest meteors will be hidden. The meteors appear in all parts of the sky not just near the radiant, but if their paths across the sky are traced back they will intersect in this smallish area of sky, if they are Perseids.



WEDNESDAY PAGE

Of Royals and royalties

Is Michael Bloch a bouncer or a biographer? Catherine Bennett seeks an answer

At the time of the abdication of Edward VIII, Michael Bloch had yet to be born. He entered the world in 1954, just before the last letters collected in 'The Secret File of the Duke of Windsor'...

None the less, Bloch's shadowy, heavily furnished flat in London suggests a great intimacy with the Windsors. A photograph of Wallis, a dog in her arms, stands on one of his mahogany bookcases. There are more pictures of the couple overlooking Bloch's monumental four-poster bed, and dominating the lot, a large oil painting of Maitre Suzanne Blum, the Windsors' lawyer.

Now members of the Windsors' staff — their former valet, maid and chauffeur — are claiming that the letters which form the guts of Bloch's fourth book on the couple should have been destroyed; that this had been the intention of both the Duke and Duchess. The maid, Maria Costa, has even claimed that private papers were removed from the Duchess's safe while the Duchess was in a helpless condition.

"These allegations are grotesque," said Bloch, a tall young man, who yesterday had a hesitant, injured manner and an look of alarm on his large, pale face. "It simply isn't the case either that Maitre Blum was not instructed by the Duchess to publish this story with the aid of the documents, or that she ever took anything she wasn't supposed to."

Well, who actually owns the letters? "It's none of your business," he said, later conceding that although the letters were "effectively"



Chronicler of a love affair and a marriage: Michael Bloch has published his fourth book on the Duke and Duchess of Windsor

in Maitre Blum's ownership, the "residual legate" of the papers was the Pasteur Institute. "They are very happy this book has been published because they get a large share of the royalties."

"The motives of Al-Fayed are, in Bloch's opinion, a far less noble thing. He became very dark on this subject, frequently requesting that the tape recorder be switched off,

history and heritage." Bloch giggled. He feels that his part in the publication of the Windsor letters, in which the couple reveal their unspiced nicknames for others, display their obsession with the exalted status of post-abdication royalty, while about their lack of money and birch about the "smug, stinking lot" of relations who refused to invite them both to tea, raises no moral questions whatever.

"I thought it was an extremely good phrase," he said, lighting a small cigar. "Very memorable and full of verve, with well chosen adjectives. It shows the Duke had a literary sense."

In a letter to The Times earlier this month, an acquaintance of Bloch suggested that his book was fuelled by a "personal antipathy" towards the Queen Mother, and quoted a letter in which the author had said that a "demonology of Queen Elizabeth" would be welcome news.

ing, simultaneously, a PhD on international affairs and a biography of Philip Guedalla, a writer of the Thirties. In the course of examining Guedalla's papers, he discovered some "fascinating" missives from the Duke of Windsor, and went to Paris to ask Blum's permission to publish.

"I fell madly in love with her from the moment I saw her," Bloch said. "I thought she was the most beautiful person I'd ever seen. She had amazing bone structure, incredible eyes..."

Bloch's next book will be on Ribbentrop, Hitler's ambassador to the Court of St James and author of a German plot to gain control of the Duke of Windsor. On the Windsor's own existence after The Secret File ends, he considers there is not much more to be said.

He met her when he was a Cambridge law graduate, research-

FIRST PERSON Opening the door to equality

Personally, I never wanted to be a miner, but I did not have time to explain this to the man who slammed the door in my face as we came out of a restaurant.

I should have got the message as he pushed past my table. The look in his eye said it all: "You asked for equality, by God you'll get it."

But men do not slam doors in each other's faces. I would not have minded being treated like a man. What I objected to was being treated like a woman masquerading as a man. I do have some standards.

"The trouble with women," a male friend of mine explained recently, with that complacent smile that goes with trying to impart truth to those incapable of absorbing it, "is that they want to be treated like women when they want to be women, and men when they want to be men."

I see no difficulty here. The fact that I do the same job as he (though, being a woman, I like to feel I do it better) does not preclude him from opening the door for me as we walk out of the pub.

"This is the nub of it. On the few occasions recently when a man has given up his seat on a bus for me (I like to think this is not just homage to the elderly), I have noticed the terrified pause, as politeness battles with self-preservation.

The trouble with all revolutions, I suppose, is that you have to go to the other extreme before you find the



"The disintegration of the earth's crust," he said. The host was a professor of geology.

In their absence, I had had a fascinating conversation with the hostess, who was researching a book on female poisoners, and another woman who had been Barbara Huton's private secretary. The only thing I had missed out on was the port and apparently there was not much of that. Still, it would have been nice to have had the choice.

No, we do not want to be men; we do not even particularly want to be treated like men and we certainly do not want to be treated like women pretending to be men. What we want is a relaxing of the pass-port controls on the border.

"You can have anything you want in life," an Indian philosopher once said, "as long as you are prepared to take what goes with it."

"They are beautiful letters, very touching love letters which stray into literary achievement"

"Seedy worn-out hags? I thought it an extremely good phrase, very memorable"

MULTIYORK'S SUMMER SALE. SUPERB SALE OFFERS ON UPHOLSTERY AND ON THE FINEST LUXURY BEDS. Includes a list of products and prices, and contact information for Multiyork.

BRIEFLY. A round-up of news, views and information. Mother's help. Fresh face. Heavy metal. Includes a photo of Joan Bakewell and a quote from her.

THE ENTERTAINMENT CORPORATION presents DIRECT FROM THE USSR THE KIROV BALLET. TWO BALLET SPECTACULARS. August 1 - August 6. Includes a photo of a ballerina.

MARKETS THE POUND FT 30 Share 1473.0 (-1.1) US dollar 1.7135 (-0.0185)

THE TIMES

PART 2

BUSINESS AND FINANCE 19-24 MEDIA & MARKETING 26,27 SPORT 36-40

WEDNESDAY JULY 27 1988

Executive Editor David Brewerton

Dollar is spurred to DM1.86

The dollar surged yesterday on new figures pointing to strong US economic growth.

The US currency rose by nearly two pence to DM1.86 in spite of intervention to restrain it.

The pound also slipped against the mark, dropping half a pence to DM3.1871.

Merger off

The merger between JA Devenish, the West Country brewer and LandLeisure, the vehicle of Mr Peter de Savary, the yachting tycoon, is off.

Farmers reacts

Farmers Group, the Los Angeles-based insurance company fighting an unwanted bid from BAT's US arm, Batus, says it will "promptly" file a response to the recommendation of the Ohio Hearing Officer made public at the weekend to conditionally approve Batus's application to assume control of Farmers.

STOCK MARKETS Dow Jones 2073.97 (+21.4) Nikkei Average 27303.76 (+120.23) Hang Seng 2655.82 (+82.1)

MAIN PRICE CHANGES RISES UK Aired 775p (+0.7) DRG 484p (+1.7)

FALLS Schroders 925p (-25p) SA Breweries 312p (-10p)

INTEREST RATES London Bank Base 10% 3-month Interbank 10% + 10p

CURRENCIES London New York £ \$1.7135 £ DM 3.1871

GOLD London Fixing AM \$430.15 pm \$431.20

NORTH SEA OIL Brent (Spot) pm \$15.30/bbl (\$15.58)

STOCK WATCH

Market news on Stockwatch yesterday included: Sutcliffe Speakman (01046) lifted 1p on final; interim losses pushed Habit Precision Engineering (01444) down 3p; a rival bid saw Case Group (01111) 29p better; Admiral Computing (05082) rose 7p on speculative demand.

Banks attack SIB fund for compensation

By Vivien Goldsmith, Family Money Editor

The compensation fund unveiled yesterday to cushion investors against the collapse of investment firms was immediately attacked by banks and the Consumers' Association.

The scheme was criticized for excluding building societies, insurance companies and firms with only interim authorization under the Financial Services Act.

Lord Boardman said it was unacceptable that the scheme required member firms to contribute according to their size rather than the riskiness of their investments.

Mr David Walker, chairman of the Securities and Investment Board, hailed it as "a new deal for the private investor" but admitted the scheme was rough and ready and he had been resistant to concessions.

Lord Boardman, chairman of National Westminster, Britain's biggest bank, said the rules were unfair and anti-competitive.

The Consumers' Association is worried that investors will get no more than £48,000 compensation - 100 per cent of the first £30,000 lost and 90 per cent of the next £20,000. It wanted the limit to be set at £100,000. It was also concerned that an annual limit on total payouts of £100 million is to be set, with the management company that will run the fund scaling down payments in years when there are heavy claims.

Chairman hints at Sunday mail services



Posting a profits rise: Sir Bryan Nicholson, the chairman of the Post Office, yesterday (Photograph: Bryn Colton)

Post Office delivers £212.2m

By Derek Harris Industrial Editor

Post Office pre-tax profits soared by a quarter, to £212.2 million, in the year to last March, as trading volumes rose and productivity improved to yield further cuts in unit costs.

Mr Walker said it would be "inappropriate and unhelpful to have a cut-off date for interim authorization" because the self-regulating organizations (SROs) might not be able to complete full authorization in time.

The surge in letter volumes - 30 per cent over five years - has helped to create 18,000 new Post Office jobs over the past two years, with the prospect of a further 22,000 over the next five if growth continues as expected.

Service excellence was the number one priority throughout the Post Office, Sir Bryan said. In the past year an extra £18 million had been invested to improve letter deliveries, with 400,000 more addresses now having second deliveries.

The profit jump was partly accounted for by cuts in efficiency contributions to the Post Office pensions fund, which needed £30 million less than before.

In announcing the Post Office's 12th year of sustained profits, Sir Bryan Nicholson, its chairman, gave a warning that while business at the high street counters was still growing its expansion was slow and "in danger of petering out".

Mr Tom Kenny, chairman of Ruberoid, rejected the advance as a "fatuous bid from a fatuous company". Mr Peter Parkin, chief executive of Raico, said, however: "It represents a substantial multiple on any forecast of earnings which the directors of Ruberoid could responsibly make."

Ruberoird made £10.2 million in the year to end-December 1987. On this basis the bid values the company on an historic exit p/e ratio of 20.3 times assuming a 35 per cent tax charge. On forecasts of £14 million for this year, the p/e falls to 16.7 times.

Dowty in £82m bid for CASE

By Alexandra Jackson

Dowty, the high-tech engineering and electronics group, has emerged as white knight in the battle for control of CASE, the information network group, with an agreed £82.5 million takeover bid.

Ruberoid rejects £133m Raine bid

Raine is offering two new shares and 60p in cash for every Ruberoid share.

'No overheating' says CBI

By David Smith, Economics Correspondent

Capacity utilization in industry is at an all-time high and manufacturing costs are accelerating, Confederation of British Industry evidence out yesterday showed. But the CBI rejected suggestions that the economy is overheating.

Competition in domestic banking pushes profits down

By Richard Thounson Banking Correspondent

Competitive pressure on domestic banking helped to push down National Westminster Bank's interim pre-tax profits to £702 million, from £747 million before exceptional bad debt provisions at the same time last year.

National Westminster falls to £702m

By Richard Thounson Banking Correspondent

Through in lower net interest margins, which dropped from 5.6 per cent to 5.4 per cent during the six-month period.

CHASE THE BEST MORTGAGE

People have been coming to Chase Manhattan in this country for more than a century. We wonder. The Chase Manhattan Bank is one of the world's leading international banks.

Mr Terry Green, the senior NatWest executive who is acting as temporary head of County, said that the securities side was increasing its share of the equity market but was failing to meet overheads from commission income.

Bad debt provisions fell sharply this year after last year's £496 million special provisions, which pushed down the 1987 interim result to only £251 million. NatWest's Third World debt provisions were £6 million this time. Mr John Melville, head of international operations, said the bank was planning to sign the latest £50 million debt restructuring package for Brazil.

Costs, however, were up sharply with a 25 per cent increase in personnel costs.

CHASE THE BEST MORTGAGE. People have been coming to Chase Manhattan... And for those applications received before 1st August we'll also refund our survey fee in full upon completion.

This advertisement is placed by The Chase Manhattan Bank, N.A., which has applied to join The Securities Association and is a member institution.

BUSINESS ROUNDUP

Wickes doubles profit to £3.4m at half time

The cooling DIY boom and the addition of more than 20 stores doubled pre-tax profits at Wickes, the building materials retailer, to £3.36 million in the six months to end-June...

Profit falls at Air NZ

State-owned Air New Zealand reported a consolidated net profit of NZ\$70.4 million (£27.3 million) for the year to March 31 against \$178.9 million last year...

Electronics firm static

The poor Christmas season for electrical retailers prompted static figures from Ross Consumer Electronics, the maker of audio accessories...

Colorgraphic placing

Colorgraphic, the USM-quoted printer which specializes in promotional material, is raising £2.14 million by means of a placing and open offer to shareholders of 1 million new shares...

St Modwen Consortium's soars to £2m

St Modwen Properties, the Birmingham developer, has reported pre-tax profits of £731,000 to £2.03 million in the six months to end-May...

Consortium's £30m deal

A consortium consisting of Arlington Securities, the business parks developer, Abacus Developments, the property arm of the Newarthill building group and Pitoo House, a private property company...

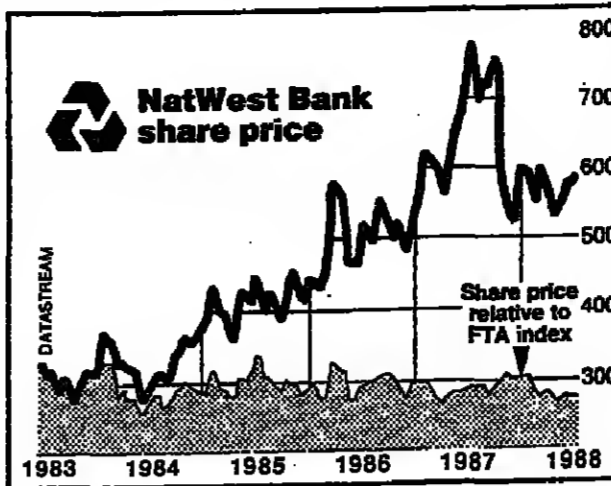
NatWest finds its act hard to follow

Estimates for National Westminster Bank's half-time profits were widely spread this year. But even those such as Morgan Stanley's, which was close, admitted that the detailed figures were surprising...

No one had expected NatWest to better last year's results (after exceptional bad debt provisions are excluded) but even the domestic banking figures were on the low side...

But the underlying reason is that competition is beginning to bite. Net interest margins fell and NatWest is having to run harder merely to maintain its returns on domestic business...

This is a problem for all the clearers. The winners will be those finding profits in other areas to make up the shortfall. NatWest is clearly finding them in the US, where its retail and commercial banking division contributed £42 million to profits...



NatWest Bank share price. The graph shows the share price relative to the FTA index from 1983 to 1988. The share price is generally higher than the index, peaking in 1987.

lacking in growth potential - but has also enhanced the group's financial position. Backed by an improved profit record and healthy balance sheet, Hepworth has had the confidence to make a couple of spirited bids for other companies...

Of the 10 people at the top of the company, nine were not there two years ago and the one who was is nearing retirement. The average age of this top management team is 10 years younger than two years ago while their disciplines are commercially rather than production-oriented...

million clay brick works to be commissioned next year and a plan to merge the clay and plastic pipes operations. This second move will bring cost savings, but is asking a lot of the marketing team which has traditionally cast clay and plastic piping as mortal enemies...

Raine/Ruberoid. Raine's bid for Ruberoid is no surprise as the predator has had a declared stake in its prey since May.

It looks like a soundly based bid at a fair price. If Ruberoid manages to put together a sensible defence the price may have to be raised, but not by a lot. The prime objective is to increase the capital value of the investment portfolio, the board reports.

COMPANY NEWS

- UPDOWN INV. (Inf) Pre-tax: £0.22 (£0.18m) NAV: 395.8p (436.0p) Div: Nil (Nil)
GREGGS (Inf) Pre-tax: £1.98 (£1.19m) EPS: 10.0 (8.8p) Div: 3.125 (2.5p)
RADIUS (Inf) Pre-tax: £1.09 (£0.86m) EPS: 3.12 (3.0p) Div: 0.75 (0.625p)
BTS GROUP (Inf) Pre-tax: £0.09 (£0.51m) EPS: 1.57 (1.44p) Div: 2.95 mkg 4.25
MURRAY SMILR MKTS (Inf) Pre-tax: £1.86 (£1.61m) NAV: 180.4 (234.6p) Div: 1.45 mkg 2p (1.65)
CLARKE HOOPER (Inf) Pre-tax: £1.58 (£1.02m) EPS: 12.4 (9.1p) Div: 1.8 mkg 3p (2.5p)

TRADITIONAL OPTIONS

Table with columns: First Dealings, Last Dealings, Last Dealings, For Settlement. Lists various company options.

LONDON TRADED OPTIONS

Large table with columns: Name, Bid, Offer, Last, etc. Lists various London traded options for different companies.

Advertisement for HEPWORTH PLC. Features a large illustration of industrial machinery and a central text area. Headline: 'The first sight of our new development'. Includes sections for HEPWORTH REFRACATORIES, HEPWORTH INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTS, HEPWORTH BUILDING PRODUCTS, HEPWORTH HOME PRODUCTS, HEPWORTH MINERALS AND CHEMICALS, and a SUMMARY OF RESULTS table.

The first sight of our new development

We've changed a great deal in the last six months. Firstly you'll notice that we've changed our name from Hepworth Ceramic Holdings PLC to Hepworth PLC. This is a more appropriate name for a broad-based industrial group...

HEPWORTH REFRACATORIES

GR Stein Ltd produces a range of heat resisting products used in industrial furnaces. The recent acquisition of Marshalls (Loxley) and Belfer have extended both its product range and its geographical market coverage.

HEPWORTH INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTS

Henderson Doors supplies industrial doors, partitioning and cladding. Henderson Security supplies non-domestic access control and video surveillance equipment.

OUR ACHIEVEMENTS

- At the six month stage: Profit before tax +54.2%, Earnings per share +34.9%, Dividend +15.3%

HEPWORTH BUILDING PRODUCTS

Hepworth Iron and Bartol, principally supplying clay pipes and plastic products for use in building and civil engineering. Next year this division will be entering the facing-brick market.

HEPWORTH HOME PRODUCTS

Our heating companies, Glow-worm and Parkray, together with Fordham Bathrooms and Kitchens, Vernon Tutbury's range of up-market sanitaryware, the newly acquired garage doors business of P C Henderson and Abru ladders for the DIY market.

HEPWORTH MINERALS AND CHEMICALS

British Industrial Sand - whose traditional strengths lie in supplying sand and related products to the foundry and glass industries. It is increasingly involved in adding more value to its base product by specialist grinding and coating techniques.

SUMMARY OF RESULTS table with columns: Six months to 30 June 1988, Six months to 30 June 1987, Year Ended 31 December 1987. Rows include Turnover, Profit before tax, Profit after tax, Earnings per share, Interim dividend.

HEPWORTH PLC

The contents of this statement, for which the directors of Hepworth PLC are solely responsible, have been approved for the purpose of Section 57 of the Financial Services Act 1986 by an authorised person.

Vertical text on the left margin containing various small notices and advertisements.

De Savary challenge with £40m container terminal

By Cliff Feltham

A £40 million container terminal, aimed at taking business away from continental ports, is to be built in the South-east of England by Mr Peter de Savary's expanding ports company, Highland Participants.

Manisty Wharf, near Ebbw Vale, is buying the 214-acre site on the Isle of Grain from BP for £12 million but the total cost of constructing three deep-water berths and facilities for loading and unloading containers will push the total cost of the project to more than £40 million.

Mr de Savary, chairman of Highland, is buying the 214-acre site on the Isle of Grain from BP for £12 million but the total cost of constructing three deep-water berths and facilities for loading and unloading containers will push the total cost of the project to more than £40 million.

industrial land which is currently changing hands for about £200,000 an acre for about £57,000 an acre," said Mr de Savary.

"Ports and harbours have historically been located on a lot of land which never used to be worth very much but today has become very valuable indeed. There has also been a history of port operators not doing very well but we have turned round Falmouth from making losses of £100,000 to profits of £100,000.

"The land at the Isle of Grain is ideally suited for development as a major UK container terminal. It is a greenfield site in the South of England, close to London, it has road and rail communications linking it to the national networks and will be accessible by ships at all tides."

Hepworth builds to £40.1m

By Alexandra Jackson

Hepworth, the building and home products group, produced results ahead of market expectations at £40.1 million in the six months to end June, up from £26.1 million last year. Sales advanced from £181.7 million to £273.1 million.

Mr Sinclair Thomson, the chief executive, explained that £18 million of the sales advance and £7.3 million of the improvement in operating profits was achieved through organic growth with £74 million of sales and £8.7 million of profits coming from acquisitions.

Henderson, the domestic and industrial doors business has been successfully integrated. Mr Thomson is optimistic about Hepworth's prospects and is not expecting a noticeable downturn.

"Every division has improved its profitability and the growth prospects are good. We have a strong management team with a good range of branded products."



Climbing the ladder of success: Sinclair Thomson yesterday (Photograph: James Morgan)

Housing 'will rise by 10%

House prices are likely to show a rise of between 10 and 15 per cent this year, according to John D Wood, the estate agent. Mr George Pope, joint chairman, said the 25 per cent rises of last year were not likely to be repeated.

The company reported a 25 per cent increase in pre-tax profits to £1.4 million for the 12 months to end-April. Sales showed a 17 per cent increase to £5.8 million. Earnings per share increased by 28 per cent to 12.3p. The final dividend is 2.5p making a total of 4p.

Plan to link card networks

The two main networks of building society cash machines are to merge, creating Britain's third largest cash machine system with more than 2,000 machines serving 8 million card-holders.

The Link system, which has seven direct building society and bank members, and Matic with 10 building society members, will sign a merger agreement in September.

Baldwin profit nearly double

Baldwin, the investment company with interests in printing, property and concrete, has bought another printer and two tour operators for £7.65 million. The deals are funded by the issue of new shares at 150p each.

Baldwin has announced pre-tax profits for the year to end-April almost doubled to £614,000, from £315,000, and a second interim dividend of 1p making a total of 2p, against 1.25p.

Permission for Ossory

Ossory Estates, the property developer, has obtained planning permission on an 11,500 sq ft site close to Hanover Square in London's West End, bought in May last year with a property in New Bond Street for £5.2 million.

The New Bond Street property will be sold as an investment for more than £7 million. The second development will cost about £3 million and be completed at the end of next year.

Telecom buy

British Telecom is investing \$28 million (£16 million) to establish itself in the American pager market. It has bought 80 per cent of Metrocast for an initial \$17 million and has committed a further \$11 million over two years for expansion.

Airline record

Aer Lingus, the Irish national airline, had record profits of £31.4 million last year for all its operations, Mr David Kennedy, the chief executive, announced yesterday.

COMMENT

Give new custodians a chance to shine

It has taken the Barlow Clowes affair to bring the Department of Trade's lamentable role as a protector of investors under the spotlight. It is tempting to think that there was no problem with the licensing system before Barlow Clowes came along. The sad fact is, Barlow Clowes is just the latest financial collapse to expose the patent inadequacies of the undermanned and under-resourced licensing system operated by the DTI.

The DTI's record is strewn with investment businesses which were licensed to take the public's money then collapsed. For instance, overt warnings were given in Parliament and elsewhere over a number of years to the Government about the now-defunct Ravendale Group whose "share shops" were closed down in November 1986. About 1,100 investors in the share shops lost £1.2 million. The closure of Prior Harwin was an unwelcome Christmas gift to investors in 1986.

One problem is that the Government's drive for wider share ownership, encouraged by its privatization programme, far outstripped the pace of its reform of the investor protection laws.

Instead the Government created millions of first-time shareholders whose naivety and inexperience of investments outside bank or building society deposits left them vulnerable to unscrupulous or incompetent dealers.

Meanwhile, further details are emerging about the warnings given to the DTI about Barlow Clowes. The Bank of England can be added to the Stock Exchange and Nasdim as regulatory bodies which voiced their concerns about Barlow Clowes to the DTI.

The cash injection will follow the placing, with clawback from 1987 losses of £50.4 million to profits of £2.2 million for the year ended last January, will be replaced by Mr Bob Rankin, former chief executive of Balfour Beatty.

The other new appointment is of Mr Martin Knight, a former director of Morgan Grenfell, as corporate development director.

Mr Joe Barber, who as chief executive is credited with helping to pull Lilley round from 1987 losses of £50.4 million to profits of £2.2 million for the year ended last January, will be replaced by Mr Bob Rankin, former chief executive of Balfour Beatty.

£27.4m injection for Lilley

The Glasgow construction group brought back from death's door in December 1986 by a new management team under the "company doctor" Mr Lewis Robertson, is hoping for a new breath of life from a £27.4 million cash injection and a fresh management team.

Mr Joe Barber, who as chief executive is credited with helping to pull Lilley round from 1987 losses of £50.4 million to profits of £2.2 million for the year ended last January, will be replaced by Mr Bob Rankin, former chief executive of Balfour Beatty.

RHM briefs MPs on bid opposition

By Colin Narwhing

Ranks Hovis McDougall, facing a hostile £1.7 billion bid from Goodman Fielder Watie, yesterday took its case to the House of Commons, briefing MPs on its reasons for opposing the takeover.

Mr Tim Howden, RHM's new deputy managing director, said after the meeting that the cross-party support for RHM's position was very strong. Mr Howden pledged to keep pressing the Government to have the bid scrutinized by the Office of Fair Trading. The political lobbying was advanced — 145 MPs put their signatures to an early day motion in Parliament opposing the GFW bid.

Mr Howden said GFW still had to publish its offer document, and it had been important to activate the politicians before the parliamentary recess begins on Friday. He emphasized to MPs that the bid would be highly leveraged, requiring funds to be diverted from product development for interest payments.

Reliant placing to finance US model

By Carol Ferguson

Reliant Motor, the car manufacturer, is raising £1.046 million net of expenses by way of a three-for-five rights issue to finance a new version of the Scimitar two-seat open top sports car. The car is being developed for the US market with the New York company Universal Motors Group.

Mr Cyril Burton, Reliant's managing director, is on record as saying that if he did not get the Scimitar into the US it would eventually die. The funds would be used to eliminate borrowings, but once production was under way, the company's overdraft facility would be available to finance increased production levels and work in progress for projected volumes in the US of no fewer than 2,000 cars a year.

The company said in view of the modest first-half profit, and the costs associated with the current reorganization within the group, it would not be prudent to make a full-year profit forecast at this stage.

eliminate borrowings, but once production was under way, the company's overdraft facility would be available to finance increased production levels and work in progress for projected volumes in the US of no fewer than 2,000 cars a year.

Speakman rejoins dividend list

By Our City Staff

Sutcliffe, Speakman, the specialist chemicals group being huilt up by Mr Nick Wilkes, is returning to the dividend list for the first time in nearly 10 years, with pre-tax profits for the year to end-March up by 64 per cent to £1.62 million.

Shareholders will receive a final payout of 2p, the first since 1979. The shares surged 11p to 132p on the news. Operating profits were up from £1.68 million to £1.92 million, and the group has benefited from the sale of its brick plant, which made a £351,000 loss last time.

But Mr Wilkes, the chief executive, said the main evidence of recovery would be seen in the next financial year, when capacity at its carbon factory at Leigh, Greater Manchester, will have doubled, and the merchandising side would be benefitting from marketing reorganization.

For the year under review, operating profits at the activated carbon business were broadly similar at £1.62 million, while environmental engineering contributed £402,000.

Bullough in £14m French purchase

By Martin Waller

Bullough, the industrial conglomerate centred round the country's biggest office furnishing group, has made a second move in Europe with the acquisition of Alal, the French maker of metal office furniture, for \$26.5 million (£14.8 million) cash.

The announcement comes with news of pre-tax profits from Bullough ahead of £11.05 million from £8.16 million in the six months to end-April. Despite a note of caution from Mr Derrick Battle, the chairman and chief executive, the shares moved ahead 10p to 478p as analysts pencilled in forecasts of about £25 million for the full year.

Mr Battle said the half-way figures contained a higher-than-usual contribution from the core of the group, Project Office Furniture, where profits went ahead by 50 per cent.

Recent acquisitions and restructuring meant there would not be such a strong bias towards the second half.

Bullough made £21.21 million pre-tax in the last full year. The half-way dividend is raised from 4.3p to 5p.

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Battery acid at Chloride

Another round in the long-running battle between Sir Michael Edwards, the grumpy chairman of battery group Chloride, and his relentless critic, Dr Maurice Gillibrand, leader of the company shareholders' action group, is due to take place at today's annual meeting in London. Dr Gillibrand, now retired, is travelling from his home in Bangor, north Wales, in order not to miss his once-a-year opportunity to cross swords with Sir Michael. Dr Gillibrand, who used to be head of research at Chloride, says he is alarmed by the company's decision to spend £7 million on buying a stake in Altus Corporation, a Californian company which has established a lead in advanced lithium battery technology.

He said: "The company got into trouble the last time it expanded in the United States, in the 1970s, and it cost us a lot of money to get out. I don't think we should run the risk of repeating the same mistakes." Dr Gillibrand has already tried to win a seat on the Chloride board, and has been strongly critical of Sir Michael's leadership. Sir Michael is also likely to face questioning over City speculation concerning a management buy-out of the company.

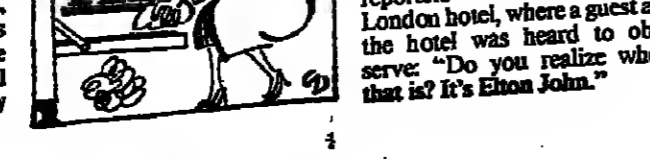
Following Mrs Thatcher's reorganization of the DSS, one sharp-witted reader asks how long it will be before the new Department of Social Security becomes popularly known as the Doss House.

THE TIMES CITY DIARY

Sainer's Hills and dales

Leonard Sainer, the life president of William Hill, the bookmaker, had to present the prizes at Goodwood, rather than accept them. Sainer, who once ran Sears Holdings, the Selfridges to Mappin & Webb Group, and is also one of the lawyers who founded Titmus Ladies' day.

Once a property man, always a property man. Ronnie Lyon, whose property empires have twice gone bust, was at Clonoua Goodwood yesterday but only in spirit. Ever the landlord, his magnificent private box overlooking the South Downs was rented out to Ervin Landau, chairman of Dares Estates, the property company, and a handful of his directors. The board of Dares, which has just launched a £25 million fund-raising exercise, could be forgiven for taking a day away from the office to entertain fund managers and persuade them to support their open offer. But instead of being grey-haired, pin-striped City gents, most of their guests were, I can reveal, women — albeit impeccably dressed in dark suits.



Cash flow

According to the Bureau of European Consumers Unions, the Brussels-based lobby group, you can spend a fortune in Europe without actually laying out a single centime. The bureau, which is calling on the European Commission to make clear proposals for a common market in currencies to avoid extra burdens to travellers, has been totting up the expense of changing money within the community. For example, if a traveller starting in Brussels on a trip to 10 European cities spent the entire sum into local currency each time, but spent none of it, he would return to the point of departure with just Bff21,300 or 46.75 per cent less than the original sum. The average cost of changing money is between 2.5 and 3 per cent, but it can rise to as much as 20 per cent when it comes to weaker currencies like Portuguese escudos or Greek drachmas.

Fame at last

Peter de Savary was the man of the moment in the City yesterday. Besides grappling with the legal action brought by his yacht, Blue Arrow, from the America's Cup, he was thrashing out the merger details — which proved, in the end, to be fruitless — between his LandLeisure group and unyielding brewers Devenish, and unveiling a big expansion of Highland Participants. So it was not surprising that he was greeted by a small throng of reporters when he arrived at a London hotel, where a guest at the hotel was heard to observe: "Do you realize who that is? It's Elton John."

Top tip

Could this be some stock market advice from the pundits at Goodwood? Lord McAlpine had two horses running in the William Hill Stewards' Cup — Our Jock and Pick of the Pack — and the form guide in the official race course programme said of the latter: "Could prove a good each-way investment this year." Does the same apply to Alfred McAlpine shares, I wonder?

Carol Leonard

Merged group at £861,000

United Industries, born out of last December's merger of United Spring & Steel Group with Ratcliffe Industries, made pre-tax profits of £861,000 for the transitional six months ended April 2.

Of this result, the USSG companies contributed £203,000 and the Ratcliffe companies £658,000. Whereas Ratcliffe comfortably exceeded its forecast made at the time of the merger, it was a disappointing result from USSG. The group is recommending a final dividend of 1.2p a share.

RECENT ISSUES

EQUITIES

Aral (135p)	146-2
BMSM (118p)	122
Broadwell Land (155p)	176
Bucknell Auto (110p)	125
Builder Gp (125p)	157-1
Calcwell Inv	185
Saverford-R (145p)	185
City of Lon	98
Colefax Fowler (125p)	145
Cooley (150p)	160
Costa (100p)	67-1
Gory (Horace)	91
Eng O'Leary Prop (155p)	188
Erskin Group (165p)	185
Heritage (95p)	185-15
Harington (180p)	151-1
Hickars (80p)	112
Jackson Group	112
Linat Group (115p)	185-7
Palmerston Hlds	240
Optim Gp (80p)	61-1
Sanderstead Elec (130p)	140
Swells (125p)	132-3
SCORP	218-4
Saverford-R (80p)	95
Sonic Tape (15p)	142-1
Repet Shop (140p)	151-2
TGI (130p)	145-1
Turner (100p)	91
Thomsons (125p)	132

RIGHTS ISSUES

Booker N/P	63-1
City Gate N/P	35-3
Evans & Deans N/P	20-1
Foster (Lich) N/P	145
Maclean Glenh N/P	72-2
Nat Aust Bk N/P	137
Nat Telecom N/P	44-1
Northern N/P	
Reliant Motor N/P	
Sonic Tape N/P	

'A year of considerable progress'

PRE-TAX PROFIT UP 13.3%
to £12,945,000 (1987 £11,427,000)

TURNOVER UP 1.9%
to £73,546,000 (1987 £72,181,000)

EARNINGS PER SHARE UP 17.1%
to 9.74p (1987 8.32p)

TOTAL DIVIDEND PER ORDINARY SHARE UP 13.7%
to 2.90p (1987 2.55p)

6 The continued efforts we are putting behind our brands, particularly Pedigree, and our commitment to retailing should show significant benefits in the future

Michael Hurdle CHAIRMAN

Marston's
BREWERS OF TRADITIONAL BURTON-ON-TRENT BEERS

Copies of the Report & Accounts available from: The Secretary, Marston, Thompson & Evershad p.l.c., The Brewery, Shobdon Road, Burton-on-Trent, Staffordshire DE14 2BW

The contents of this statement, for which the Directors of Marston, Thompson & Evershad p.l.c. are wholly responsible, have been approved for the purposes of Section 57 of the Financial Services Act 1986 by an authorised person. Past performance is not necessarily an indication of future performance.

STOCK EXCHANGE PRICES

Equities lose early lead

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings began July 18. Dealings end July 29. Contango day August 1. Settlement day August 8.
Forward bargains are permitted on two previous business days.

Prices recorded are at market close. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Where one price is quoted, it is a middle price. Changes, yields and price earnings ratios are based on middle prices. (a) denotes Alpha Stocks.

Portfolio PLUS NEW Accumulator. From your Portfolio gold card check your eight share price movements on this page...

Portfolio PLUS NEW Accumulator. DAILY DIVIDEND £4,009. Claims required for 36 points. ACCUMULATOR £130,000. Claims better than 36 points. Claimants should ring 0254-53272.

Weekly Dividend table with columns for Mon, Tue, Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat, Sun and a weekly total.

BRITISH FUNDS table listing various funds like High Low Stock, Short (Under Five Years), and Five to Fifteen Years.

OVER FIFTEEN YEARS table listing long-term investment funds.

UNDATED table listing various investment options.

INDEX-LINKED table listing index-linked investment funds.

BANKS, DISCOUNT HP table listing bank and discount house prices.

BREWERIES table listing companies like Abbot, Adnams, and others.

BUILDING, ROADS table listing construction and infrastructure companies.

CHEMICALS, PLASTICS table listing chemical and plastic companies.

DRAPERY, STORES table listing retail and clothing companies.

ELECTRICALS table listing electrical and electronics companies.

FINANCE, LAND table listing financial and real estate companies.

FINANCIAL TRUSTS table listing financial trust companies.

FOODS table listing food and beverage companies.

HOTELS, CATERERS table listing hospitality companies.

INDUSTRIALS A-D table listing industrial companies A through D.

INDUSTRIALS E-H table listing industrial companies E through H.

INDUSTRIALS I-L table listing industrial companies I through L.

INDUSTRIALS M-P table listing industrial companies M through P.

INDUSTRIALS Q-Z table listing industrial companies Q through Z.

INSURANCE table listing insurance companies.

LEISURE table listing leisure and entertainment companies.

MINING table listing mining companies.

MOTORS, AIRCRAFT table listing motor and aircraft companies.

NEWSPAPERS, PUBLISHERS table listing media and publishing companies.

OILS, GAS table listing oil and gas companies.

PROPERTY table listing real estate and property companies.

PAPER, PRINT, ADVERTISING table listing media and advertising companies.

OVERSEAS TRADERS table listing international trading companies.

SHIPPING table listing shipping and logistics companies.

SHOES, LEATHER table listing footwear and leather goods companies.

TEXTILES table listing textile companies.

TOBACCOS table listing tobacco companies.

Table listing various companies and their prices.

Table listing various companies and their prices.

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Table listing various companies and their prices.

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(D) Access it

★ ARTIST DES and evocative version of Head play. King's Head Pt 1 N1 (01-226 187) 9.25. Pressing n. Tues. Sun. 8.5- Sun 8.5-22

★ BALZAC's the great bridge of the unbridgeable Lyric Studio, K 2811. Tube: H 7.45 and 7.55. 7.30-15. The Aug. 6. 26.

★ BLOOD RUSSELL's Best Dee as the one away and Albany Theatre (01-836 3878). previews from cross night Ju SAT 7.45-10.45 and Sat 4-7pm from July 21.

★ A BRIGHT Series of new with Tony K piece set in p. Markham and Bush Theatre W12 (01-743: 743). Tues-Sat 8.30pm

★ BUSMAN: L. Seyers's o thriller, with f. Edward Ford as the newly Peter Wimes Lyric Theatre 2411. Tube: W 7.45pm. Sat 7.30pm. Pre 2.30pm. Com

★ THE OOK takes over the play tracing undergradi Phoenix Theatre W2 (01-833 0000) Court Road. Sat 8.45-8.15pm. 26

★ DANGER that smiling Dint Bulloch can foil. Phoenix Th (01-836 22) Mon-Fri 8-1 mats Wed 7.35pm. 26

★ DRINK Barry Foster year's Punt relationship and her bit but fine ac

★ WORL Advers. EUPHEI In Inten OLYMPIA the Hell whole a survives reference superb (a) Th spous: i their r resemble nothing (b) T (c) Ge divider answer checks (d) BODA (e) I from b throuz cious raised.

★ ACROS 3 Pigs. 8 US (5) 10 Unl 11 Phe 12 Sm 13 Cot 14 Ter 15 Ch 16 Fr (5) 20 Gr 21 Sc 22 Pt 23 Fr 24 Pt 25 Fr 26 Qd

★ DOW 1 OI 2 A 3 C 4 C 5 SOLI 6 ACR 7 B 8 DOV 9 SPl

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UNLISTED SECURITIES

Large table containing financial data for unlisted securities, including company names, prices, and changes.

INVESTMENT TRUSTS

Table listing investment trusts with columns for name, bid, offer, change, and year-to-date performance.

FOREIGN EXCHANGES

Table showing exchange rates for various currencies, including Sterling, Dollar, and Euro.

MONEY MARKETS

Table detailing money market rates, including overnight, 1-month, and 3-month rates.

COMMODITIES

Table listing commodity prices for various goods such as oil, sugar, and metals.

Degrees awarded by the University of Warwick

Table listing degrees awarded by the University of Warwick, categorized by subject area such as Accounting and Financial Studies, Chemistry and Business Studies, Economics and Political Studies, etc.

University of Wales Institute of Science and Technology degrees

Table listing degrees awarded by the University of Wales Institute of Science and Technology, categorized by subject area such as Accounting and Finance, Business Administration, Economics, etc.

Queen's Bench Division

Law Report July 27 1988

Chancery Division

Bank owes no duty of care to banks

Minorities Finance Ltd v Arthur Young Johnson Matthey plc v Arthur Young (Bank of England - First Third Party) Before Mr Justice Saville [Judgment July 18] No duty of care arose out of the relationship between the Bank of England and commercial banks in the United Kingdom. Principles did not indicate that such an obligation should exist. On the contrary it seemed to offend those principles to suggest that a commercial bank such as Johnson Matthey Bankers Ltd could look to the Bank of England to make good its losses arising from its own imprudence or carelessness on the basis that the Bank of England had discovered and should have discovered and should have dealt with such a situation. Mr Justice Saville held that the Queen's Bench Division in granting an application by the Bank of England to strike out third-party notices issued by Arthur Young, chartered accountants, in actions brought against them by minorities Finance Ltd (formerly known as Johnson Matthey Bankers Ltd) and Johnson Matthey plc, and by Gordon Langley, QC and Mr Richard Siberry for the Bank of England; Mr Timothy E. Walker, QC and Mr Andrew Smith for Arthur Young.

Injunction in dispute over use of title

News Group Newspapers Ltd v Mirror Group Newspapers (1986) Ltd Before Mr Justice Aldous [Judgment July 22] The use by one newspaper in its advertisements of the logo and title of another newspaper gave rise to an arguable case of passing off. The claimant newspaper sought an injunction to restrain the defendant newspaper from using the claimant's logo and title in its advertisements. Mr Justice Aldous granted the injunction, finding that the claimant's logo and title were distinctive and that the defendant's use would lead to confusion among the public. The defendant argued that the claimant's logo and title were not distinctive and that the public would not be confused. Mr Justice Aldous rejected these arguments, holding that the claimant's logo and title were indeed distinctive and that the defendant's use would lead to confusion. The defendant's application for summary judgment was refused.

Levy on window firm

Construction Industry Training Board v New View Aluminium Products Ltd (Construction Board) Order (SI 1980 No 1274) and therefore liable to pay a levy to the Construction Industry Training Board. Mr Justice Macpherson so held in July 18 in allowing an application by the Construction Industry Training Board against a decision of Asford Industrial Tribunal that New View Aluminium Products Ltd was not liable to pay the levy.

Correction

In Gibbons and Another v Burton (The Times July 23) the plaintiffs' solicitors were Payne Hicks Beach, who have amalgamated with Francis & Crookenden.

MEDIA & MARKETING

Football: who really needs it?

OPINION

Peter Bowman

The televising of football has always been a contentious issue between ITV and BBC. As contracts with broadcasters expire, lengthy negotiations take place in the run-up to the next soccer season. The offer to the Football Association by the satellite television station BSB has added further controversy, and highlights the importance and prestige which broadcasters attach to the game.

But is too much importance being placed on it? Advertising agencies do not share the broadcasters' enthusiasm for the game, which has a down-market audience profile. Football returns a healthy investment for television companies, with advertising revenue for their television network from live games often amounting to £1 million a game. Indeed, even more may be paid for first-rate matches in the later stages of certain competitions. It also attracts lucrative sponsorship agreements with major corporations. Last summer Barclays Bank and the league agreed on a record £4.5 million three-year sponsorship deal.

However, advertising agencies do not see the televising of sports such as football as necessarily the best place to sell their clients' products. The Broadcasters Audience Research Board is responsible for the reporting of television ratings for ITV and the BBC. Its figures show meagre ratings for sport as a whole. Football is no exception, proving particularly weak in reaching up-market audience types.

ITV, conscious of the performance of its programming, regularly researches output in an attempt to improve scheduling and increase audiences. One recent study carried out on behalf of ITV looked at how interesting and enjoyable male viewers found different sports. "Live" athletics events came out highest. "Live" football did not get into the top five, while

"recorded" football could only scrape into ninth position, sandwiched between tennis and Rugby.

Football on television attracts a declining minority. Even snooker, often regarded as the great success story of television sport, does not score outstandingly. A recent study examined audience patterns for snooker tournaments on BBC and ITV in 1987. Snooker attracted high audiences but only in off-peak viewing and on the minority channels which do not often produce large audiences. The report concluded that "old films now attract higher audiences than sport..."

Relatively few people play football on a regular basis. In terms of sport participation, soccer ranks only ninth in the United Kingdom, with only 5.4 per cent of adults playing. Swimming, chess, darts and badminton all have higher participation rates.

Interest in football is male-oriented and carries a down-market profile, yet the television advertisers who are becoming the big time buyers are in such categories as cars and finance and they are hunting the up-market viewer, the elusive ABC1 audience. Football's down-market profile does not compare favourably with sports such as tennis or golf.

Such factors diminish the value of the game to the advertising fraternity. Whether because of crowd violence, inadequate spectator facilities or poor play, football has a tarnished image, and advertising agencies are beginning to ask whether it is the right television environment for their clients' products.

Given that both terrestrial and satellite stations are bidding for football coverage next season, one can only suppose this is because it is such a high profile event rather than because it is a particularly valuable commodity.

Peter Bowman is media research director of WCRS Matthews Marcontonia.



How they will sugar the pill: the new campaign for Sweetex aims to turn "a problem product into a normal product"

From next Monday, the marketers of Sweetex, Crooke's Healthcare, are attempting a bold move. Their image-makers - design consultancy Lewis Moberly and advertising agency Gold Greenleaf Trott (GGT) - are trying, with the help of new packaging and a £2.5 million campaign, to persuade us to start cooking with the stuff to use it unashamedly in the kitchen, rather than just sneaking it surreptitiously into a cup of tea. "We're making a problem product into a normal product," says Lewis Moberly creative director, Mary Lewis. Sweetex comes in two forms: the traditional tablets and granulated. The aim is to push the granulated, and Lewis Moberly has ditched the old packaging, redolent with unfashionable images of calorie counting, in favour of a chic recipe books and wooden spoons. The tablet dispenser has become a more discreet affair, rather like a cigarette lighter. GGT's inspiration is more Shakespearean - three witches round a cauldron bemoaning the poor cooking qualities of other sweeteners.

The theory is that Sweetex, thus repositioned, could become as popular as skimmed milk and low-fat spreads. With sugar under increasing attack from the health lobby and each of us chomping our way through a terrifying 84 pounds of sugar a year, the theory may well be a sound one. The repositioning of well-known but declining brands is becoming increasingly common as the cost of launching and supporting new ones becomes prohibitive. Beecham has championed the idea, turning Lascorade, for example, from a recuperative tonic for sickly children into a hip health drink for teenagers. In the last five years, stagnant sales have been revived and only top soft drink brands, Coca-Cola and Pepsi, are bigger. Allied Breweries, meanwhile, is claiming sales up by nearly 20 per cent of its 40-year-old Long Life beer, which the company says is due to its new image as a light, young man's beer instead of a dark, old-fashioned one. Carys Bowen-Jones © Times Newspapers Ltd 1988

Minding that child

How Louise Brown turned a press agency inside out

The birth of Louise Brown, 10 years ago this week, has an enduring place in the Guinness Book of Records: her title, "The World's First Test-Tube Baby", echoes it. But according to Fleet Street mythology, the date also marked a peak in the history of chequebook journalism.

The Daily Mail, it was said in El Vito's, had paid £250,000 for the front-page photograph and story of the new-born miracle, and had recouped almost as much within the hour by re-selling some of the foreign rights.

For Louise's tenth birthday this week, however, the Mail was not invited to bid. Among the journalists who grew up on those stories of money and muscle were the seven young reporters and photographers of the Bristol Press and Publicity Agency who, to their mild astonishment, found themselves appointed the family's Press agents earlier this summer.

"One of the first things we had to do as their agents was to tell the Daily Mail not to bother," explained Keiran Daly, one of the three men who started the agency two years ago.

"We knew the birthday was coming up, the Browns are a local family. One of our lads talked to

them and sort of offered to run things - really expecting that one of the nationals would have them already signed up - yet they jumped at it. I don't think we knew what we were letting ourselves in for. Louise's birthday brought the agency almost to a standstill at times." They soon found that even unique 10-year-olds do not command the fees of the new born. "We were not talking about a fortune. Not even thousands," said Daly. "We offered all the tabloids exclusive pictures and interview for a few hundred pounds. None of them wanted to know." Eventually, the British rights were sold to Woman magazine, for an interview which appeared on Saturday, and The Sunday Times and Sunday Mirror shared a second bite at the story. The foreign Press, Daly said, seemed better at dealing with money than the British media. "You got an instant decision, and some even turned up with the money in £20 notes."

A few hundred pounds from an Italian television company and smallish fees from an American daily newspaper, magazines in Spain and Italy and radio stations in Australia and Canada, all sweetened the pot. But what of big-spending television? "Well," said Daly, "ITN did not actually pay; they gave the family a video of all the old footage they had done on Louise." And the BBC? "Well the Browns don't think you can ask them for money." So in total, from perhaps two dozen interviews and as many photographs, the Brown family benefited by perhaps one thousandth part of the monies they were supposed to have made in 1978. In any case in one interview this week Louise's father was scornful about those first pots of gold. "He was quoted as saying the family got only about £18,000 after tax," Daly said. "There is no doubt he feels he was ripped off: that millions were made between the media, and very little came to him." "It is not our policy to reveal the figures," said a spokesman for the Daily Mail. "We were not ungenerous. We are happy that they were well looked after."

David Courtneil

A Scots must?

Scottish Sunday papers will face a new challenge next month

Five years after the collapse of the Sunday Standard, a new paper will arise on August 7 in the shape of Scotland on Sunday, with a target of 90,000 ABC1 readers.

The Standard has bequeathed to its successor a healthy residue of good will and definite proof that a substantial Scottish appetite for an indigenous quality exists. Scots are often irritated by the general metropolitan bias of the London-based papers. The Sunday Times has moved to counter these complaints by printing in Glasgow, but omens look favourable for the new paper.

Scotland in August 1988 is markedly different from the recession-plagued country in which the Sunday Standard failed to prosper. Its demise was due to a combination of high overheads and lacklustre support from the advertisers. Scotland on Sunday, by contrast, has direct input and faces a Scottish economy which, in patches, is remarkably buoyant.

In addition, the Scottish Sunday itself has undergone a radical transformation. While archaic laws stifle Sunday enterprise south of Hadrian's Wall, the typical Scottish Sabbath is not spent in the Kirk but in discount DIY warehouses, department stores, and the pub.

The Scots also have a voracious appetite for newspaper - their per capita consumption puts them at the top of the world rankings. The national quality dailies make comparatively little impression on either The Scotsman (93,000 circulation) or The Glasgow Herald (120,000) whose intermexic rivalry is emblematic of the great East-West divide in central Scotland. Scotland on Sunday, like the Standard before it, hopes to bridge this chasm.

The paper is also conscious of the tightrope it must walk in Scotland's uneasy political climate. "We are going to be politically independent, tending to be supportive of enterprise without being partisan," said deputy editor Brian Groom, formerly the Financial Times's news editor. "We shall attempt to be constructive - to banish the popular image of the whinging Scot."

Al Senter

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MEDIA & MARKETING

Jacques Séguéla, France's advertising legend, is on the prowl for London agencies. E. Jane Dickson met him in Paris

Ads sans frontières

High above the Seine, in a cast iron building designed by Gustave Eiffel, Jacques Séguéla sits enthroned, like some squat saint in glory. Behind him is a wall-painting of Eiffel's more famous tower in orbit over the universe. In front of him is ranged a periply of international advertising awards.

Founder, chairman and creative director in chief of Roux Séguéla Cayzac et Goudard Advertising Worldwide, Séguéla controls a creative empire spanning four continents. An annual billing of £3 billion accrues to the Paris headquarters from agencies in 10 European countries, Africa, the Middle East, the Far East and the United States. In June the company acquired a 51 per cent equity in the Chicago-based agency Tatham-Laird and Kudner, a deal that propelled the RSCG network into the world's top 20. This month, it is hunting new agencies in both New York and London, a move that is bound to alter its relationship with Colman's, the current UK affiliate.

A self-confessed megalomaniac, Séguéla is a legend in his own lifetime. Born in 1934, he gained a PhD in pharmacy, broke several rally-driving records and became editor-in-chief of *France-Soir*, Paris's leading right-wing tabloid. Then, at the age of 30, he launched himself into advertising with partner Bernard Roux.

Roux-Séguéla's first job in 1970, achieved instant *succès de scandale*. An advertisement in *L'Express* showed the then President, Georges Pompidou, at the helm of a Mercury speed-boat. "When the campaign broke," Séguéla recounts gleefully, "the Elysée administration threw a fit, the paper's print run was halted for the first time in history, and I was assured the notoriety I craved."



Révolutionnaire!

Revolutionary spirit: Jacques Séguéla says "the ad man's only moral obligations are to shift his client's stuff"

Socialiste — "La Force Tranquille" (1981) and "La France Unie" (1988) — which provoked as much controversy as the policies they presented. Séguéla's allegiance to socialism is purely professional. He voted for a right-wing party in the last election and brooks no criticism of his flexible ethics. "I am not required to have political opinions," he says. "I am required to have political ideas. The ad man's only moral obligations are to shift his client's stuff — be it soap powder or politics — and to honour the integrity of the product. The singular and cardinal sin of advertising is the unsubstantiated claim."

This professional credo is based on Séguéla's "star system" — an advertising genre that has abandoned traditional copy strategy for the all-out pursuit of brand personality. The tenets of this philosophy are set out in his inspirational text *Hollywood Washes Hitler*, published by Flammarion in 1979. In it he exhorts his followers to "leave without shame or regret the deadliness of publicity and approach the living banks of communication". It comes as no surprise that Séguéla's

car has a different USP in every country in Europe. The British buy it for its stability and social standing, the Swedes buy it for its security, the Germans for its strength and engineering, the Italians buy it because it goes 'vroom vroom' and the French buy it for its beauty. Only by tuning into the common language of adventure can you make one product fit so many criteria simultaneously.

hero is Sam Goldwyn of Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer.

"Goldwyn was the first great star-maker of our age," he explains. "He knew that along with the basic physical properties of the product — great legs for Dietrich, great biological agents for a washing powder — the vital elements of success were character to create a lasting impression and style to seduce."

Mitterrand and Woolite soap-flakes are Séguéla's favourite star-system successes. Woolite's original unique selling proposition (USP) was its low-temperature usage. Séguéla ignored this and turned the brand into the indispensable psychological prop of beautiful women like Sylvie Vartan, Jane Birkin and Romy Schneider. Mitterrand's original USP was socialism. Séguéla ignored this and turned him into "l'homme tranquille", France's favourite uncle.

"Mitterrand is a man of great experience, serenity, honour and intellect, but he lacked that sellable glamour," Séguéla says. "Now he's got what it takes." For Séguéla, the forthcoming European market of 1992 and the inevitable increase in pan-European advertising is one more vindication of the star-system's excellence.

"The British have always maintained that barriers of taste and humour are insurmountable in pan-European advertising, but a good commercial will work anywhere in the world. Glamour and fantasy translate into all languages. Every European understands and identifies with James Bond, *Chariots of Fire* and *Raiders of the Lost Ark*. We have based our pan-European Citroën campaigns on the same premises of spectacle and adventure.

An admirer of De Gaulle, Séguéla is fiercely patriotic and committed to the championing of French advertising in the international market. "I once asked Francois Mitterrand what he hoped to get out of being President. 'The satisfaction of knowing that France will be significantly different at the end of my tenure,' he replied. 'I share this ambition. The dream of my life is to establish a new advertising ethic for France that will shine out over the entire world.'"

BYLINES

Talking about talks

LBC, London's news and speech-based commercial radio station, has commissioned the biggest audience research project in its history to determine if it should launch a separate FM service in the autumn.

Independent local radio stations such as Capital Radio have already launched new programme schedules on FM in addition to their AM output, and the increased airtime has intensified competition for advertising revenue.

The stumbling block to a new LBC channel would be a refusal by the IBA to allow it to broadcast music and loosen its strict news and speech franchise remit. Peter Thornton, the station's editorial director, said: "Another all-speech service would be extremely expensive to launch."

He added: "It's a difficult decision, but we will have a view of what the research tells us by the autumn."

The research has already overturned one presumption: more than half of its 2.5 million weekly audience listens on FM already, so LBC's AM frequency would be the likely home for a new service.

No Grub Street

Journalists on the *Daily* and *Sunday Telegraph* have been in a mutinous mood since their arrival in "Dry Docklands". But they have been cheered by the management's belated agreement to allow the sale of alcohol in their floating staff canteen, along with blinds in their offices to combat a "greenhouse effect". The aesthetically-minded management, however, is insisting the blinds must either be all up or all down at any time. But *Telegraph* journalists are better off than their counterparts at *The Independent*, whose canteen has shut to make room for the impending Saturday magazine.

EMAP MacLaren, planning a £1 million launch in October of a weekly TV industry magazine, *TV Week*, to compete directly against International Thomson's *Broadcast*, have not earned the admiration of potential advertisers in the television facilities market by suddenly sacking George Jarrett, the respected veteran editor of the monthly magazine *Television and Video Production*.

Briefing . . .

Owen Oyston, owner of Lancashire's Red Rose group of commercial radio stations, is increasing his domain along Britain's North West coast with the purchase of the Dublin-based Sunshine pop pirate, whose signal crosses the Irish Sea . . . BBC golden boy Nick Ross is fronting this weekend's international police-watch on ITV, 999. *Police International*, a firm indication of the impact of the Beeb's imminent new guidelines which will restrict its current affairs presenters' current freedom to make highly lucrative appearances in corporate videos. Wholesale descriptions are expected . . . Discussions between Phil Redmond, creator of the Channel 4 soap *Brookside*, and Canadian production companies suggest he is considering leaving his independent Mersey Television and establishing a new base across the Atlantic to launch an assault on the Canadian and North American markets . . .

David Housham

Poor Taste

Taste, Britain's only surviving glossy cookery magazine, is being sold by BEAP, the puzzle magazine publishers, to Focus Investments, a magazine and exhibitions group, which only last week bought *Video For You*. Focus, chaired by former International Thomson chief executive Sir Gordon Brunton, have 10 computer and technical publications, plus *Collectors' World* (antiques) and *The Clothes Show Magazine*, a joint venture with the BBC. *Taste*, which lost about £600,000 last year, sells only 50,000, but Focus chief executive Richard Heese sees hopes for synergy with Focus exhibitions. Perhaps a wine and food show in London would whet the appetite?

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BBC

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Interested Parties Should Contact
Vicki Skipworth at 01-734 0911

College Leaver for Chairman's Office

An outstanding opportunity has arisen for a college leaver keen to join a professional organisation as an Assistant to the Chairman's Secretary. This position offers plenty of variety, excellent training and the opportunity to gain wide working experience in a technologically advanced office. Good "O" levels, shorthand at 80wpm and typing at 40wpm are essential together with an excellent telephone manner, a presentable appearance and the ability to work well in a team dealing with highly confidential matters. An attractive salary is offered together with a full range of benefits. For further information and to arrange an interview call Clare Sibthorpe on 01-353 8134 or write to her at Arthur Young, Rolls House, 7 Rolls Buildings, Fetter Lane, London EC4A 1NH.

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PERSONNEL ASST/SEC.

The Personnel Director of a major media consultancy needs an assistant to provide him with secretarial support and to co-ordinate the recruitment of support staff and temporary staff. You will need to have experience in interviewing plus sound audio typing and WP skills. Salary: c.£11,000.

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As Graduate Secretary/Administrator for this small stockbroking firm dealing in both London and international markets, this will be a great learning opportunity for someone numerate and ambitious, with competent audio/WP skills. Salary, to £16,000 a.a.e.

PERSONNEL

Looking to broaden your personnel experience? Keen to pursue your IPM qualifications? The Personnel Manager of this leading property company needs a confident secretary/administrator to handle top level appointments, salary reviews, etc. Age: Late 20s/early 30s. Skills: audio and WP. Salary: £11,500 + benefits.

Senior Secretary

Unilever based in Blackfriars have a vacancy for an experienced short-hand secretary. The position involves working for the Senior Commercial Member of our Personal Products Corporation. The work of the Department is very varied and deals with cosmetic and perfumery companies throughout Europe. Suitable candidates should have at least 5 years secretarial experience, possess excellent shorthand and typing skills and be proficient on a word processor (preferably IBM 5520 but cross training will be given where necessary). Applicants should be numerate and enjoy working with figures and be able to work quickly and accurately. Starting salary will be according to age and experience but will be in the region of £11,000-£11,500 (with a present job maximum of £12,950). Benefits include 5 weeks annual holiday, subsidised staff restaurant, contributory pension scheme and interest free season ticket loan after 6 months. Please write enclosing CV or telephone for application form to: Mrs C Appleby, H.O. Personnel Department, Unilever PLC, Unilever House, PO Box 68, Blackfriars, London EC4P 4BC. Tel: 01-822 6006.

ITALIAN £14,000

Fluency in Italian and preferably French is required in this senior level banking position. Working on a one-to-one basis, your involvement in client contact, company research and general administrative support will be encouraged by this flamboyant Director who demands total commitment from his P.A. A confident, resilient personality, ideally with banking experience, you will be looking for a position of responsibility within an international environment. Age: 25-40. Skills: 100/60 + audio.

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PERSONNEL £14,000

A prestigious publishing house based in London's West End are looking for a Personnel Manager. Founded 200 years ago, they are famous for their children's and romantic paperbacks as well as their medical and educational hardback books. You will take sole responsibility for all the secretarial recruitment within the company, from the initial interviewing through to the final selection. With the responsibility for busy permanent secretaries, you will also need to be interested in their welfare and be willing to take on a supervisory role. Ideally you will be aged between 35 and 50, have a warm, friendly and approachable personality and have some previous experience in recruitment. This position is ideal for someone looking for their final career move. Typing: 50 wpm. Recruitment Consultants 925 8133

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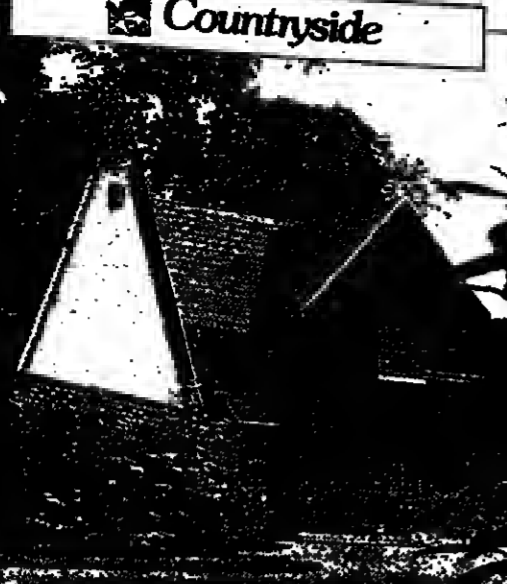
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to date

Then Again can gain compensation for last year's ill fortune

Then Again, whose attempt to land the odds in the Swettenham Stud Sussex Stakes at Goodwood a year ago was rained when he slipped on the bend and injured his back, is taken to compensate his connections by winning the same group one race there this afternoon following some sparkling homework on Newmarket Heath.

The Goodwood race was the last we saw of Then Again until he reappeared at Royal Ascot last month and ran that fine race in the Queen Anne Stakes against Waajib and Soviet Star who were both razor sharp. Now he is meeting Waajib on 31b better terms.

Those who wonder whether Then Again will handle the course any better than he did last year can derive encouragement from knowing that he won the Waterford Crystal Mile over precisely the same course and distance the previous season. So I remain hopeful that last year's incident was simply a one-off.

What is clear is that Then Again will need to be at his very best again to win this competitive prize. Interestingly most of the runners would prefer faster ground, the exceptions being Then Again, Caerwent and Lapierre. Certainly all of Lapierre's best performances have been when there has

RACING

By Mandarin (Michael Phillips)

By some give, notably that distance of the Prix Jean Prat at Longchamp in May.

I was not totally sold on his comeback race at Lingfield in earlier months, even though Salse gave the form a flip by winning at Newcastle on Monday.

Robert Sanger, whose stud sponsors the race has two chances of clawing back some of his own money because he has a share in Caerwent in addition to owning Prince Rupert outright. On Newbury form Prince Rupert should not beat Broken Hearted.

If there is a surprise in store, it could easily be sprung by Most Welcome, who is reported to be fully recovered from an infected foot and going really well again.

The task of leading today's race, though, is entrusted, without a moment's hesitation, to Pat Eddy on Wabawsan, in the Scottish Equitable Richmond Stakes, even though his form as it stands lacks the substance of both the unbeaten Zakhir and Frequent Flyer.

Like Zakhir, Wabawsan comes from a stable which can do little wrong at present. Even though it was only a maiden that he won at York in June, he did it in the style of a really good two-year-old. By all accounts his homework has been exemplary throughout the build-up to today's race.

While conceding that the distance of the Scottish Salmon Handicap is guaranteed to bring the best out of Freestone, I still much prefer Green Adventure, who showed all the requisite qualities at Royal Ascot when he won the Queen's Vase.

By the time that Faax Pavilion goes to the post for the Pimm's Goodwood Handicap, his chance could easily have been advertised by Insular winning the Sea Pigeon Handicap at Redcar 20 minutes earlier.

For Insular, who looked unlucky at Ascot only last Friday, had Faax Pavilion and the subsequent Sandown winner Fame And Glory breathing down his neck when he won the Commonwealth Handicap on the Ester track on Epsom day.

Otherwise, it could easily pay to follow Jimmy Fitzgerald's promising apprentice Kieran Galan riding Scaire (2.50), Greek Fluter (3.20) and White Sapphire (4.25) on the Cleveland track.

I particularly like the look of Scaire in the Redcar Silver Salver Stakes after his promising introductory third at Think 12 days ago.

Blinkered first time

GOODWOOD: 3.10 Warnock, 4.45 Golden Path, 5.00 Scaire, 5.10 Scaire, 5.20 Scaire, 5.30 Scaire, 5.40 Scaire, 5.50 Scaire, 6.00 Scaire, 6.10 Scaire, 6.20 Scaire, 6.30 Scaire, 6.40 Scaire, 6.50 Scaire, 7.00 Scaire, 7.10 Scaire, 7.20 Scaire, 7.30 Scaire, 7.40 Scaire, 7.50 Scaire, 8.00 Scaire, 8.10 Scaire, 8.20 Scaire, 8.30 Scaire, 8.40 Scaire, 8.50 Scaire, 9.00 Scaire, 9.10 Scaire, 9.20 Scaire, 9.30 Scaire, 9.40 Scaire, 9.50 Scaire, 10.00 Scaire, 10.10 Scaire, 10.20 Scaire, 10.30 Scaire, 10.40 Scaire, 10.50 Scaire, 11.00 Scaire, 11.10 Scaire, 11.20 Scaire, 11.30 Scaire, 11.40 Scaire, 11.50 Scaire, 12.00 Scaire, 12.10 Scaire, 12.20 Scaire, 12.30 Scaire, 12.40 Scaire, 12.50 Scaire, 13.00 Scaire, 13.10 Scaire, 13.20 Scaire, 13.30 Scaire, 13.40 Scaire, 13.50 Scaire, 14.00 Scaire, 14.10 Scaire, 14.20 Scaire, 14.30 Scaire, 14.40 Scaire, 14.50 Scaire, 15.00 Scaire, 15.10 Scaire, 15.20 Scaire, 15.30 Scaire, 15.40 Scaire, 15.50 Scaire, 16.00 Scaire, 16.10 Scaire, 16.20 Scaire, 16.30 Scaire, 16.40 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CRICKET: ENGLAND LOOK TO THE LONG TERM AS THEY GO BACK TO THE RETHINK TANK WHILE GOWER CONTEMPLATES THE INDIAN TOUR

The lonely walk of Cowdrey

By Alan Lee, Cricket Correspondent

Christopher Cowdrey shook his head over his shattered dream. Summoning adequate words was not easy, even for this natural orator. Finally, he said: "The major disappointment is that we lost by 10 wickets."

He was neither deliberately stating the obvious nor attempting sarcasm. Cowdrey was just expressing his bewilderment that England could make such an unholly mess of a match in which they retained hopes of victory until late on the fourth day.

Marshall does not do the damage, then Ambrose, the man of the match here, assuredly will. Given five dry days at the Oval, it is difficult to see their being denied a 4-0 victory. Not quite the same old whitewash but as near as makes no difference.

Dujon and Haynes wasted no time in making the 38 runs required yesterday. Dujon ended it with a four clipped through square leg off Cowdrey, who, despite making a lively impression with his captaincy, did nothing in the match to dispel the fear that neither his batting nor his bowling is good enough for Test cricket.

It was a frank admission by the manager that the long term must be protected as the short term is beyond redemption. West Indies, staggeringly underrated by most observers on the firm evidence of a few personnel changes and defeat in a one-day series for which they scarcely concealed their contempt, have proved that even if they may not be quite the sledge-hammer force of old, they remain far too strong for England.

Despite going into this game with three batting changes, England looked as bankrupt as ever against truly high-quality fast bowling. Lamb, who still hopes to be fit for the Oval, and Gooch again proved to be alone in the ability both to survive and advance against such bowling. Robin Smith gave us a marvellous bout of

beligerence and hinted at better things to come while Curtis is worthy of a run in the side, as Gooch's opening partner.

Briers is spared a target

By Richard Streeton

LEICESTER: Leicestershire (5pts) drew with Essex (0) Nigel Briers, the Leicestershire captain, was spared an awkward decision about the target he should leave Essex yesterday when heavy rain at lunchtime left the square soaked. Briers knew that Ferris (right) and Lewis (strained calf muscle) would be unable to bowl later.

Carr hits his way out of a lean spell

By John Woodcock

LORDS: Middlesex (2 pts) drew with Surrey (3 pts) Rain spoiled what had the makings of a good finish at Lords yesterday. Chasing 307, Middlesex were 163 for Carr, with 95 minutes left on the clock, when enough play was left to put them hopelessly behind the clock.

Scoreboard from Headingley

Scoreboard from Headingley showing England vs West Indies. Includes batting and bowling statistics for both teams.

Fruitless festival passes by

On Saturday, could well decide the issue.

The ball moved around a little more on Monday, and Kent's middle order was found wanting. Radford, Newport and Hingworth gradually worked their way through batting which, for some reason, was ill-disciplined. Benson and Taylor could be exonerated, both edged to second slip on account of movement of the seam.

Championship table

Championship table listing teams and their points: Kent (5), Middlesex (2), Surrey (3), Essex (0), Lancashire (2), Warwickshire (0), Gloucestershire (0), Hampshire (0), Northants (0), Yorkshire (0), Derbyshire (0), Somerset (0), Nottinghamshire (0), Leicestershire (0), Glamorgan (0), Herefordshire (0), Devon (0), Cornwall (0).

Andrew in doubt

Steve Andrew, the Hampshire pace bowler, has had his back examined by a specialist and is in danger of missing the NatWest Trophy quarter-final match against Derbyshire.

De Silva is in a hurry to beat the rain

EDGBASTON: Warwickshire drew with the Sri Lanka tourists.

An undefeated 117 by Aravinda de Silva saved the Sri Lankans' opening first class fixture from total ruin on another rain-marred day against Warwickshire at Edgbaston. The 23-year-old Test batsman took advantage of a second string country attack to hit 21 fours and three sixes before the match was abandoned.

Parrott puts his rivals in the shade

By John Watson

Goodwood week pool opened at Ambersham, Sussex, yesterday with a quarter-final match for the Maidenhead Cup, which is a subsidiary of the tournament for the four-chukka medium-goal Harrison Cup.

McDonald brothers in control

By Roger Lean-Vercoe

Neal and Duncan McDonald stormed into the lead of the Kleinwort Benson International 14 championship at Poole yesterday, scoring a first and second place in the two races.

Rugby Union England in pool with Scotland

By Chris Than

After the withdrawal of Ireland and Australia, the entire programme of the first Students' World Cup has had to be redrawn, the French organizers announced in Paris yesterday.

Evening Racing Redcar

Going good 1.15 (m 10) Emma (K Bratshaw, 8-1)...



That's entertainment: Maynard on his way to a fourth half-century in five outings

Glamorgan way off target

By Martin Searby

CARDIFF: Glamorgan (2 pts) drew with Yorkshire (2) The talented Maynard provided all the entertainment at Sophia Gardens with the fourth century in his last five innings, but Glamorgan's target of 303 in what would have been 81 overs was too steep and the players retired early with 124 still wanted from the final 11 overs.

Other Scoreboards

Other Scoreboards section containing various cricket match results and statistics from different regions like Hants v Derbyshire, Somerset v Northants, etc.

Minor Counties

BEDEFORD: Lancashire 185 for 8 v Northamptonshire. No result. HASTINGS: Kent 226 for 8 v G. G. Hinks 74: Sussex 106. Kent won by 59 runs.

De Savary wants to sail on into troubled waters

By Keith Wheatley

With just eight weeks to go until the start of the next America's Cup, the Blue Arrow challenge, headed by Peter de Savary, yesterday decided to fly its boat and support facilities to the regatta venue in San Diego. The airlift will go ahead even in the face of New Zealand's refusal to race the British team. San Diego Yacht Club is the holder of the Cup after Dennis Conner's comeback victory in Australia last year. It plans to defend the trophy in a catamaran, a move which the New Zealanders, who are the automatic challengers, were unable to block in Monday's court action in New York. However, what they did block was a British bid, in the form of the Royal Burnham Yacht Club, to be a rival challenger for the Cup.

Peter de Savary and Michael Fay, his opposite number for the Mercury Bay Boating Club in New Zealand, held an acrimonious transatlantic telephone conversation in the early hours of yesterday morning. There was no change at

all in his position," said a furious de Savary, who now accepts it as extremely unlikely that Britain will get a chance to race this year. "He has a barrack-room lawyer mentality. The Americans are 100 per cent willing to let us compete and risk losing the Cup to our boat but Fay doesn't want to take a chance. He's the last man who should be involved in the America's Cup."

De Savary's belief that Fay has broken faith centres on a letter written to him by Fay in April. Once the Blue Arrow head knew his team could build a boat in time for a September regatta, he asked New Zealand for an acceptance. It came in a clear and simple letter from Fay. The New Zealand syndicate leader now says he did not realize he was agreeing to race such a revolutionary boat (Blue Arrow has produced the world's first foil-assisted monohull) and that the deal is therefore void.

In San Diego an aide to Michael Fay agreed that the exchanges between the two

had been "heated". In an interview broadcast in New Zealand yesterday, Fay said: "Mr De Savary's boat is not the right type, this is one Cup he's not in. We're not going to race the defender's catamaran without a protest and we won't race the British trimaran at all. We have an agreement made in New York last December to race the British if they turn up in the same type of boat as ours. If they do, then there will be a challenger series."

In the New York judge's verdict on the case, delivered on Monday, Justice Ciparick held that there had been an agreement between de Savary and Fay but that it lacked the necessary details to be enforced in a court of law.

Blue Arrow's rationale for dismantling the boat and its support craft and shipping them and 60 personnel to San Diego is twofold. "This is an intermediate, unexpected America's Cup. We didn't expect to race until 1991 anyway," de Savary said. "Setting up of a camp and sailing the boat in a competitive environment will be an invaluable rehearsal for the real thing. We're also incredibly proud of the technology this represents. To build a boat this unusual and have her go like a rocket straight out of the box is something all of Britain can be proud of."

It won't do any harm to have her sailing off San Diego, flaunting her stuff in front of the New Zealanders. I just can't believe that Fay can be the first man in the history of this event to hide behind the law.

Blue Arrow, after extensive discussion with New York attorneys, has ruled out any appeal against the judgement. "No more lawyers," de Savary said. "She [the New York judge] was absolutely right that this whole thing should be on the water."

Mankind easily outpaced at a gallop



Three against one: Dr Wilson finds the odds very much against him in yesterday's gallop below Somerset's Blackdown Hills. Photograph: Nick Rogers.



De Savary trying to keep his plans afloat yesterday

Tyson calls for hold on Bruno date

New York (Reuter) — Mike Tyson settled his contract dispute with his manager, Bill Cayton, on Tuesday and then announced that he was taking a break from boxing and would not box the British heavyweight, Frank Bruno, as scheduled.

Tyson, who had sued to break his contract with Cayton, reached an out-of-court settlement under which Cayton will remain his manager until February 11, 1992.

However, Cayton's share of Tyson's boxing income will drop from 33 per cent to 20 per cent, and his cut of the champion's future commercial endorsements will be reduced from 33 per cent to 10 per cent.

Tyson also gained the right to veto any proposed fight, control the hiring of a trainer and have an accountant of his choice review "all revenues past, present and future."

"I'm running the show now," Tyson said at a news conference attended by his wife, mother-in-law, adviser Donald Trump, Cayton and attorneys for both sides. "If I disagree with anything, it doesn't have to happen."

Cayton said he was pleased that the bitter dispute was resolved following an all-day negotiating session on Monday.

"If it had gone to trial, it would have been disagreeable and unhappy for everyone," he said. "Let the past be past and let's go on to a bright future."

Tyson said the immediate future won't include a scheduled bout on September 3 against Bruno at Wembley Stadium.

"I'm going to take six to eight weeks off. I just don't want to fight right now."

Stewart appeals for big changes in county game

By Alan Lee, Cricket Correspondent

largely owing to the poor quality of championship pitches and, he believes, the dominance of overseas players.

"It is very necessary to look seriously into our traditional domestic game in order for us to compete and be acceptably successful at the highest level," Stewart said, adding that he had long been hoping to expound his theories from a position of strength after an England victory. Presumably, he has wearied of waiting. England have gone 17 Tests without a win.

"I don't want these opinions to be seen as an excuse for what has gone on out there," Stewart continued. "We have lost 3-0 and that's it. We have been stuffed out of sight. But this type of cricket is too far removed from our domestic game. It's far too far from ever and something must be done."

Stewart has long been advocate of four-day cricket in the county championship but he accepts that a commitment to the longer game would be ruined unless better pitches are prepared. He also believes that our grass-roots system is "the weakest in the world" and that we are wasting the chance to employ specialist coaches, such as John Snow, in the area of fast bowling.

"The thinking of county clubs these days revolves around revenue. Perhaps they lose sight of the fact that their biggest source of revenue is the Test pool. It could be that their share will not be so big unless our fortunes improve at this level."

The dilemma of Test players was best summed up by the captain, Chris Cowdrey. "We have a championship which is great fun. It is usually played on sporty pitches and things are happening all the time. But from that you have to find a side to play a totally different sort of game on good Test pitches against high-class bowling. The two games are so different."

"Pitches are the biggest problem. We have all seen teams win championships on bad wickets. Through this, batsmen come into a Test in no sort of form and bowlers arrive with a false confidence. Someone has to stop the doctoring of pitches and perhaps more onus should be put on the umpires."

Stewart joined the debate on overseas players with his personal view that none should be allowed in the county game. But Viv Richards, the West Indian captain, holds the opposite view.

"It is a feeble excuse," he said. "It is sad to me that overseas players take the knock whenever England lose."

Horses hammer man in fun run

By Jack Waterman

As a favourite fantasy, "man bites dog" has fascinated generations of journalists. "Man beaten by racehorses" does not quite have the same literary snappy appeal, but at least it has happened: the latest instance being yesterday on one of Martin Pipe's storm-soaked wood-chip gallops on his training grounds below the Blackdown Hills in Somerset.

Dr Alan Wilson, 6ft 3in, a muscular, bearded international runner in saty blue and white stripes, took on half a dozen of his leading National Hunt stable's inmates, in the knowledge that never in recorded history has a man raced against a horse and won. And that still remains true. Dr Wilson stumbled over the gallop, was seen overtaken and well beaten after 150 metres; the winner was a new chasing recruit from Ireland called Big Paddy Tom, ridden by the champion jockey, Peter Scudamore.

Strange as this interlude may seem, it had a purpose. Earlier in the day, close by in Taunton, it had been announced that Marlborough Leisure Park, the company behind the expansion of Uttoxeter racecourse, and with ambitions for an entirely new course near Swindon, had put up £1 million to endow a new Chair in Comparative Biomedical Sciences at Bristol University.

The racehorse/human fun run was a celebration of this event, because the research which will stem from it will be concerned in part with the study of the training of human athletes and its application to the training of racehorses. To illustrate this, Dr Wilson who is trained in veterinary science (as well as actually being able to ride a horse) compared his own routine with that of a racehorse which spends a good deal of the day idle in his box: "I run about 120 miles a week, but I don't spend 20 hours a day in bed!"

Dr Allen Goodship is the occupant of the new chair at Bristol and one of Britain's leading experts into research into orthopaedic injuries in racehorses. He explained: "We decided a lot of areas of research are not covered. Marlborough will support research at Bristol to the benefit of British racing and horses in general."

One of the aims of the research will be towards preventive application: to diminish the number of injuries suffered by racehorses, to improve their training surfaces, as well as nutrition, and hence reduce the wastage and early retirement of so many good horses which takes place today.

A new sports medicine clinic for animals will be established at the university's School of Veterinary Sciences at Langford. It is intended that the new facility will link up with a modern veterinary clinic to be established at the new racecourse proposed by the Marlborough Leisure Park Group near the M4 at Swindon. The intention is that several hundred racehorses would be trained at the new racecourse, to enable on-the-spot undergraduate and postgraduate work with horses to take place.

19 April 1988

Mr Peter de Savary
Blue Arrow America's Cup Challenge
UNITED KINGDOM

Dear Peter,

Mercury Bay Boating Club, as Challenger for the next America's Cup, agrees to a sail off with Royal Burnham Yacht Club in August 1988.

Kind regards

Michael Fay

H. MICHAEL FAY

cc Sail America

Michael Fay's letter to de Savary in which he agreed to a challenge for the America's Cup

Gutteridge will know result today

By Pat Butcher, Athletics Correspondent

Jeff Gutteridge, the British international pole vaulter, will know this morning whether he is to become the first British athlete to fail a dope test. The first sample showed traces of what were said to be steroids and the second sample was analysed yesterday afternoon.

If the second test proves positive, Gutteridge effectively faces a life ban. He was tested at a training camp in the Canary Isles on April 29.

The urine was split into the

quisite two samples, and the first sample was tested at the King's College laboratory two weeks ago. When it allegedly showed traces of an illegal steroid, Gutteridge was suspended from competition, pending a test on the second sample.

British Amateur Athletic Board officials confirmed yesterday that the results would be announced late this morning. And since, in the history of drug testing in Britain, a second sample has never

contradicted a first, Gutteridge is a prime candidate for an IAAF two-year ban for a first offence. But, since the BAAH has a policy of refusing to apply for reinstatement, that would mean the end of his career.

When Gutteridge received notification of the alleged irregularities in his first sample two weeks ago, it is understood that his solicitor responded, asserting that the original procedures for taking the sample had been conducted improperly. But the Swiss athlete, Sandra Gasser, claimed similar improprieties over her positive dope test at the world championships in Rome last year. That claim was turned down in the High Court.

At his home in Slough last night, the former Commonwealth wealth silver medal winner said: "I can definitely say I will be taking legal action if the results of the test go the wrong way. Obviously, it's an anxious time."

SPORT IN BRIEF

Roche hits road again

Stephen Roche, Ireland's 1987 Tour de France winner, makes his comeback after injury when he rides in the Kellogg's Professional Tour of Britain next month. Roche has not competed since mid-April because of knee trouble following a crash, but a Munich clinic has given him the all-clear to resume racing after a series of training sessions through the Wicklow Mountains near his Dublin home. "I'm feeling good and there hasn't been the slightest twinge from the knee," said Roche before returning to the Continent for training. Last year, Roche became the first man since Eddy Merckx to win the Tour of Italy, Tour de France and world professional road race championship.



Bishop: London meeting
David Bishop, the Pontypool and Wales scrum half, could be wearing Hull Kingston Rovers Rugby League Club's colours soon. Rann Turner, Rovers' secretary, said: "A deputation from the club met Bishop and his agent in London on Monday night to negotiate the deal. They couldn't come to terms but we are confident that Bishop will sign by the end of the week."

Connors wins

Jimmy Connors picked up his long-awaited 106th singles title at the DC Classic tennis tournament on Monday and said he wanted the 107th to be the US Open in September. The top-seeded American, who defeated third seed Andres Gomez of Ecuador 6-1, 6-4 in the final, had not won a tournament since October 1984 in Tokyo.

Biggest triumph

Melbourne (Reuter) — The New Zealand All Blacks secured the highest score of their rugby union tour of Australia yesterday, crushing a Victorian XV 84-8 but conceding two tries. New Zealand full back, John Gallagher, scored 36 points with four tries and 10 conversions in a night of personal triumph.

Why Cottee chose Everton

By Ian Ross and Louise Taylor

Tony Cottee yesterday cited his dissatisfaction with life in his native London as the most salient reason behind his decision to join Everton and not Arsenal. He agreed to join the Merseyside club late on Monday night and completed the formalities of a £2 million transfer yesterday, a fee which equals the British transfer record established last month when Paul Gascoigne joined Tottenham Hotspur from Newcastle United.

"There were two main factors behind my decision," he said. "Firstly, I was very impressed with Colin Harvey, his thoughts on football and the role he has in mind for me. Secondly, I was a bit disenchanted with London and I felt that I needed a new challenge. I am looking forward to settling up in the North."

"It was a tough decision between two great clubs but I am certain that I have made the right one. I want to win titles and establish myself in the England squad and I think that I have a better chance of doing that here than I would have had at Arsenal."

Andy Thorn became the second member of Wimbledon's FA Cup-winning side to join Newcastle United this summer when he signed for them in an £850,000 transfer yesterday. The England under-21 central defender, who had just been appointed captain of Wimbledon, has agreed to a five-year contract.

The stakes in the television bid for football are likely to be raised again today when British Satellite Broadcasting's chief executives meet to decide on their response to the offer made last week by ITV of £44 million over four years.

BSB will be discussing three options, the first being to attempt to sell their present 10-year offer of a joint venture company, which in the first four years will give the Football League £35.2 million.

This seems the least likely, it is the least productive option. The others are to improve that package, or to produce another, directly comparable to ITV's straight cash offer over four years.

After being burnt in the previous round, BSB yesterday were playing their cards close to their chest, a tactic they intend to follow if possible right up until the League extraordinary general meeting on August 6. Unless it is feared it would be ruled unconstitutional, they intend to present their bid to the assembled League clubs in a sealed envelope.

"We are still investigating that possibility," Bob Hunter, the managing director of BSB's Now channel, said yesterday. "But obviously there is no point in doing that if there is any risk of it being ruled out of order at the time."

Hunter was unwilling to speculate on what decisions he and his colleagues, in concert with some interested major shareholders, will reach today.

BSB not prepared to submit yet to ITV

By Peter Ball